

Hafa Adai!

GCEA clarifies involvement in Fiscal Response Summit. PAGE 2
Chamber opposes anew Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax. PAGE 3

\$1

Saipan Tribune

EDUCATION SUMMIT

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada, and Northern Marianas Technical Institute chief executive officer Jodina Attao delivered their first State of Education Addresses last night at the World Resort Saipan Taga Hall. The State of Education Address is an annual platform for NMC, NMTECH, and PSS to come together and present plans for student success and workforce development to students, parents, guardians, elected leaders, government officials, and community partners. Together in the photo with the three leaders are the NMC Board of Regents, CNMI PSS Board of Education, and the NMTECH Board of Trustees.

NMC

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AS CW 'TOUCHBACK' POLICY STARTS SEPT. 30

CNMI faces new challenge

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

Although the CNMI workforce has only started to get back on its feet following multiple typhoons and an ongoing pandemic, it now faces



Benavente

a new challenge in the form of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services' recently implemented "touchback" policy.

In an interview with CNMI Department of Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, she said it

will be another great challenge for the CNMI's labor workforce to overcome the inevitable. See CNMI on Page 4

CEC identifies tentative polling places

» Early voting on Northern Islands starts at CEC today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission has identified tentative polling places on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for the Nov. 8 general



Igitol

elections. CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol on Wednesday emphasized that the CEC board has to approve the tentative polling sites during a meeting next month.

See CEC on Page 4

Propst accuses Torres administration of lavish spending

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) accused last week the Torres administration of lavish spending, including buying new cars for everybody at the Department of Public Safety in what he described as "too



Propst

many that he can't count all of them."

House of Representatives vice speaker Rep. Blas Jonathan T.

Attao (R-Saipan), on the other hand, last week also expressed confidence that the Legislature can eventually pass a balanced budget by the deadline because Senate Fiscal Af-

See PROPST on Page 4

Marianas School Pride is a partner of PSS' campaign in making a difference

TOGETHER, WE CAN

By DR. ALFRED B. ADA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Alfred B. Ada, Ph.D., brings over 30 years of experience in educational administration, including work as a researcher, instructor, and school administrator (principal, vice principal). Ada assumed the position of the Commissioner of Education of the CNMI Public School System in late 2019 and has continued to lead the PSS community through the challenges that have arisen since his appointment.

Gearing up for the Marianas School Pride launch this Monday, the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers held a series of presentations to our public and private

See TOGETHER on Page 4



INSIDE



LOCAL

MINA completes work on the removal of marine debris in the targeted areas of the Tinian Harbor.

PAGE 13



BUSINESS

Former President Donald Trump padded his net worth by billions of dollars and habitually misled banks and others about the value of prized assets.

PAGE 16



WORLD

Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a partial mobilization of reservists Wednesday to bolster his forces in Ukraine.

PAGE 17



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Local

GCEA clarifies involvement in Fiscal Response Summit

The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers issued a statement today in response to recent claims that the GCEA's 2021 Annual Report includes information from the Fiscal Response Summit of 2020 that recommended the taxation of sugar-sweetened beverages and tobacco.

The GCEA respectfully wishes to clarify that the council did not recommend the taxation of sugar-sweetened beverages and tobacco. Furthermore, GCEA was created by an Executive Order after the 2020 Fiscal Response Summit. While members of the council were participants of the summit, any comments made at the time do not reflect the work and recommendations of the council.

However, the council, since its formal establishment, has made recommendations in the 2021 annual report and in council meetings to provide equity in the taxation of guest houses and bed and breakfasts, many of whom do not comply with the current CNMI rules and regulations to operate in the tourism sector. Tourism continues to be the most critical

industry in the Marianas, and there must be requirements and standards to which all operators must adhere to when providing services to our visitors. The lack of equity in the statutes and regulations for tour operators, guest houses, and bed and breakfasts pose a significant challenge to ensuring the quality of the Marianas as a destination and the safety of its tourists.

All tourism industry operators should follow the same laws and standards for the Marianas' tourism market, including paying taxes and fees. In addition, it will ensure that their operations meet applicable safety and other code requirements, while addressing their employees' and our tourists' safety concerns. As a result, this will generate \$2 million to \$6 million in lost revenue for the Marianas compared to collections currently made under the present statute providing the Hotel Occupancy Tax.

The GCEA's 2021 Annual Report is available for download or viewing on GCEA's website at www.cnmieconomy.com/reports. (PR)



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Chamber opposes anew Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
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CORRESPONDENT

The House of Representatives' inclusion of the proposed Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax in

the 2023 Budget Bill is causing a stir amongst businesses in the CNMI.

CNMI awarded \$8.8 million in CIP funding

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was recently informed by U.S. Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor that the CNMI has been awarded \$8,829,728 in fiscal year 2022 Capital Improvement Project funding.

The \$8,829,728 in CIP funding will be allocated for the following priority projects:

- \$3,000,000 for the Department of Corrections (DOC) heating, ventilation, and airconditioning (HVAC) replacement.

- \$932,640 for the supply and installation of powerlines in West San Jose, Tinian.

- \$932,640 for the Rota West Harbor access road improvement.

- \$882,974 for the continuation of the Capital Improvement Project Program Administration.

- \$650,000 for the roof replacement and improvement for the Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI) building.

- \$500,000 for the supply and installation of a fire alarm and sprinkler system at the DOC.

- \$500,000 for additional

funds for the construction of the Commonwealth Disability Center.

- \$485,634 for the maintenance of infrastructure projects in the Commonwealth.

- \$350,000 for the replacement of the surveillance system at the DOC Adult Correctional Facility.

"I would like to thank Assistant Secretary Cantor and the Office of Insular Affairs for their continued partnership and support for the CNMI's priority projects. With this funding, we are not only able to continue the functions of

the CIP Program in administering, implementing, and managing CIP funding for CNMI priority projects, but we are also able to continue making critical improvements to our public infrastructure, including the replacement and installation of essential equipment for the Department of Corrections facilities, improvements on both islands of Tinian and Rota, roof replacement and improvement for the NMTI building, and the construction of the Commonwealth Disability Center," stated Torres. (PR)

In fact, Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Kimberly Camacho told the media yesterday that the largest business group in the CNMI sent a letter to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres with a request to oppose the bill.

"The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has joined a coalition formed by many local and regional companies that manufacture, distribute, and sell non-alcoholic beverages across the CNMI to engage with the Small Business Community to support the opposition of the Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax bill proposed in House Bill 22-116 YR 23 Appropriations Act," said Camacho.

Camacho said that the coalition has put together a letter to submit to Torres, requesting

the opposition to the Sugar Tax Bill in H.B. 22-116. She listed several points that would be addressed in the letter. Firstly, showing how the bill will include a huge, regressive tax on local consumers, showing that with a regressive beverage tax, low-income families will be dramatically impacted.

Giving examples of how the tax rate of 2-cents-per-ounce will increase the cost of 12-pack beverages to an additional \$2.88, and how two-liter bottles will eventually rise in cost another \$1.35; the coalition seeks to imply that through adding a tax on common grocery items, such as beverages, would mean that local consumers may see price increase up to, and possibly beyond 50% at grocery stores, restaurants, vending machines, and movie theaters. The letter will also pointedly

highlight that local consumers already pay a 1/2-cent-per-ounce tax on many of these beverages, which already generates close to a million dollars per year in tax revenue.

Another point the coalition seeks to highlight in the letter is their belief that a beverage tax will be an enormous burden on local businesses, and especially small business owners who may rely on such sales.

"Restaurants, convenience stores, movie theaters, grocery stores, and other small store owners are still struggling to

See **CHAMBER** on Next Page

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Judge rules in favor of AK Toyota in Anaks homeowner suit

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has ruled in favor

of Atkin Kroll Toyota after dismissing the lawsuit filed by the Anaks Ocean View Hill Homeowners Association Ltd. over Atkins Kroll's plan

to open a Lexus dealership and auto repair shop in Puerto Rico.

Last Tuesday, Superior Court Judge Pro Tem David Wiseman

granted the request filed by the Commonwealth Zoning Board and Atkins Kroll to dismiss, with prejudice, the complaint filed by the homeowners association of Anaks Ocean View Hill over AK's plan to open a Lexus dealership and auto repair shop in Puerto Rico.

Dismissal with prejudice means the complaint cannot be filed again.

The judge dismissed the petition after finding that ultimately, the petition filed by the homeowners association to have the court review the zoning board's decision to grant a conditional permit for AK's Lexus dealership and 27-bay repair and autobody shop in Puerto Rico, was filed untimely.

"As a matter of good policy for the sake of consistency and clarity, the 30-day clock to petition for judicial review begins running as of the date of the zoning board's public vote. Because the jurisdictional deficiency cannot be cured, the matter is dismissed with prejudice," the judge stated.

The main argument made by zoning and Atkins Kroll to warrant a dismissal was that the complaint filed by the homeowners association was untimely and is jurisdictionally barred from judicial review.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CNMI

From Page 1

table exodus of hundreds of CNMI-Only Transitional workers due to the "touchback" policy which will take effect starting Sept. 30, 2022.

"We are so dependent on our CW workers, so this is going to be a challenge as the CNMI as a whole and our economy is just beginning to recover from the pandemic and its economic effects. We're really feeling the pinch more and more as we already had a shortage of workers [to begin with]," she said.

"[This] particular exodus is really going to affect us because this means less hands to work in our economy, less working, able bodied hands, qualified, experienced skilled hands, that we all need to run our economy," she added.

However, Benavente said she is confident the CNMI is up for the challenge.

"It's a tough time, but I believe we're up to the challenge. We have some students who are graduating from high school and we have some returning residents who want to

come back home and help with the challenges that we are facing in the CNMI. So it's a good time for recovery," she said.

The DOL secretary said she is also confident in the efforts CNMI DOL has made in the past three years in preparation for this inevitable loss of CW-1 workers.

"We've had three years to prepare. The CNMI Department of Labor has been helping our business entities with preparing for the expected exodus of contract workers. What we've been doing is posting as many job vacancy announcements as we can for local businesses to try and attract local, qualified, U.S. resident workers. Although we've been preparing, you can never be prepared for a pandemic. So that kind of threw us off track. But we have prepared as much as we can with skills development training, educating our workforce, and sharing all our local businesses' concerns with our federal partners. So we have been preparing especially these past three years," the secretary said.

In addition to providing training and educating the local population, Benavente said DOL is also in

the process of submitting a letter to USCIS to relay the many concerns raised by local business as a result of the new touchback policy.

"I am actually drafting a letter to USCIS, voicing concerns that we've received from the public sector and private sector companies. We are drafting concerns that have been brought to us so that we can continue to communicate with our federal partners because they can't do this just from watching what's going on. They need to hear from the CNMI's key stakeholders like the government and private sectors," she said.

Ultimately, Benavente said DOL is doing all it can to but while communication remains ongoing, she also encourages businesses to comply with the new policy even though it may be hard.

"We recognize the concerns and implications that this has on a business because it also has an implication and impact on the economy. But I would also like to encourage all businesses to follow the intent of the law. The labor laws, the U.S. labor laws as we continue to communicate with our federal partners," she said.

TOGETHER

From Page 1

school leaders this past month. The GCEA recently met with the newly installed MSP advisors and ambassadors, and I am thrilled by the overwhelming support and enthusiasm of our Public School System students, teachers, and staff who attended our pilot meeting.

When the council launched the Marianas Village Pride Campaign last year, the goal was to promote a sense of community pride within the villages and schools. It also coincided with the creation of PSS Family and Community Engagement Program, which among others, the primary purpose is to serve public school stakeholders and the community as a whole. The MVP Campaign focused on improving the quality of life at the village level—within which our public school and community belongs. The program was a great success, and in its second year, the program branched off into the MSP program to focus on engaging public and private school students to help make their schools better places to learn and thrive.

The MSP program is also bringing back meaningful activities that will build teamwork and a sense of ownership in the schools. The Campus Beautification activities as well as the Anti-Littering and Anti-Vandalism Campaigns will instill a positive cultural value and educate about how we all have a responsibility to care for our environment. Our children must take ownership and pride in their schools and communities. Knowing that over 50 PSS students, teachers, and staff members attended

the first MSP advisors and ambassadors meeting demonstrates that they understand the importance of their roles in our community. I am inspired by their enthusiasm and service to their schools.

The cash prizes in the form of education tax credits helped our schools accomplish much-needed projects or purchase supplies and equipment. Marianas High School won the grand prize of \$15,000, and the school's leadership team maximized every cent to reinvest in the school and its students.

I encourage all schools to identify their MSP advisors and ambassadors as soon as possible as the official campaign will begin on Sept. 26. This is a fantastic opportunity for our schools. The GCEA announced at the PSS Principals and Program Leaders' Summit that the grand prize would be \$10,000 in ETC for the winning middle or high school and another \$10,000 for the winning elementary school. I can only imagine how much this will help to make school improvements possible.

As the council prepares to make its way to Rota on Sept. 30, our Rota PSS schools have already committed to a beautification project. I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr/Sr High School and Sinapalo Elementary School for being the first schools to submit a Campus Beautification proposal. I am excited to see the project on its before and after transformation.

I continue to encourage all our schools to join GCEA as they launch the Campus Beautification program, the Christmas Decorating Contest, and the Mural Contest when it launches this Monday, Sept. 26. The remaining contests will launch in Oc-

tober, and schools can earn points for simply participating. Every student volunteer hour will also be matched with points.

When I attended the MVP Awards Ceremony in April of this year, I was impressed by the overwhelming support of our public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, considering we were at the height of the pandemic.

On behalf of our PSS State Board of Education and the entire PSS community, I'd like to thank the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers and its partners for this commendable initiative. Your ongoing assistance in beautifying our community is consistent with PSS' outreach campaign of community partnership and inclusion.

As we embark on the new school year, I hope that students recognize that we are a community dealing with the same issues as other communities around the world. Our worldview should be that everyone is the same and can positively contribute to their communities.

I know that the past two years have been difficult for our students to adjust to the hybrid classes, so I hope that through the MSP program, our students can look forward to participating in activities that will boost morale and school spirit. At the CNMI State Board of Education and PSS leadership level, we appreciate any assistance in restoring normalcy in our students' lives, and GCEA has been the first to step forward and respond to our call for collaboration. Together, We Can!

For more information, visit the GCEA at cnmieconomy.com, on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy), or contact them at gceacnmi@gmail.com.

CEC

From Page 1

Igitol said the polling places on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota during election day will open at 7am and close at 7pm on the same day.

For early voting on Saipan, the tentative polling place is the Pedro P. Teno-rio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

For early voting on Tinian, the tentative polling site is the Tinian Department of Public Safety in San Jose.

For early voting on Rota, the tentative polling place is the Rota Northern Marianas College in Tatatchug.

Early voting on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will be on Nov. 1 to Nov. 7 between 8:30am and 4pm.

Early voting on the Northern Islands will start today, Friday, at the CEC conference room in Susupe. Early voting on the Northern Islands will be daily and will end Nov. 7.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

PROPST

From Page 1

fairs Committee chair Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota) is a veteran in the budget process.

Torres has until Oct. 1, 2022 to enact a new budget bill into law or risk a potential shutdown of government operations during an election year.

Last Aug. 27, the House passed a budget bill to appropriate \$109.7 million out of \$150.4 million in total budgetary resources, and \$52.6 million from the American Rescue Plan Act funds, for CNMI government operations in Fiscal Year 2023. Today, Friday, the Senate will hold a session on Tinian and the House budget version is included in the bill calendar.

At a press conference by the House majority members in the House chamber last Friday, Propst said the Torres administration is not implementing cost-cutting measures, but engaging in lavish spending of huge salary increases.

"We're looking at the lavish spending, crazy money being spent. Salary increases, factual. The numbers don't lie. Those documents don't lie. Those

are all real," Propst said.

Torres earlier dared House majority members to name Cabinet members who received a salary increase.

Propst said everybody gets a new car. "How many new cars does the DPS have? So many that we can't even count them all," the lawmaker said.

He said they hear time and time again the governor asking the Legislature to pass revenue-generating bills and that this is part of the lawmakers' duty.

"Okay governor, give us an example of what you exactly would like a bill. Raise taxes?" Propst said.

He said it is absurd to put everything to the House to somehow come up with budget shortfalls.

"There is no funding for the retirees. So guess what? House members, Senate, you guys have to think of some way to come up with \$15 million. Okay. Well how about we get [casino licensee] IPI [Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC] to pay what they owe? For starters," the lawmaker said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CHAMBER

From Page 3

recover from the economic impact of COVID and record inflation. Now is not the time to add more burden to local businesses." It states

The letter also noted that the wide public opposes discriminatory taxes on beverages, highlighting the fact that there are only seven cities across the nation with a beverage tax. An example of an unsuccessful beverage tax implementation was one in Cook

County, Illinois, where the beverage tax implemented had to be repealed within months of implementation, due to the outcry from local consumers and businesses.

Camacho said "Generally speaking, should this bill pass, businesses will suffer with the extreme tax increase and consumers will suffer by raising prices on their favorite beverages."

Camacho stated that a petition signing will follow the submission of the request letter. Dates of the petition's release are not yet confirmed with updates to follow.



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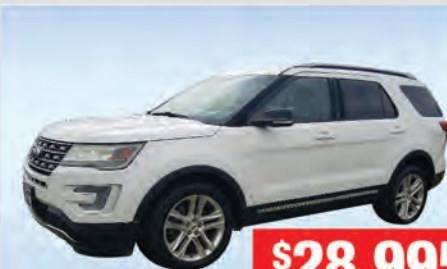
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Hyatt receives Rising Star award



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Guillaume Delemarle, center, with staff holding the World of Hyatt Rising Star award.

even if they are not a guest in the hotel and earn points to receive rewards whenever they go and stay in any Hyatt property around the world. Benefits include free nights and room upgrades, airline miles, car rentals, dining and spa, excursions etc.

Last week, WOH upped the game and will award members triple points whenever they use their WOH card whether dine-in or take out at any of Hyatt Regency Saipan's outlets like Kili Café & Terrace, Miyako lunch buffet (dine-in only) Giovanni's, Skipper's Beach Bar and Dj's Corner. The promo started last Sept. 15 and will run until Dec. 20, 2022.

Hyatt Regency Saipan was established in the CNMI in 1981 and is the first and only international hotel on the island. For more information about World of Hyatt, call (670) 234-1234 and ask for the front desk or go to their website saipan.regency.hyatt.com. **(PR)**

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INVITATION FOR BID

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF TYPHOON SHUTTERS- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SUSUPE BUILDINGS
ITB22-GOV-42200152

The Office of the Governor, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), through the Governor's Authorized Representative (collectively, "Commonwealth"), on behalf of the Department of Public Safety is soliciting sealed bids for the supply and installation of typhoon shutters at the Department of Public Safety Susupe Buildings, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The ITB package will be available starting **September 16, 2022**, at the Office of the Governor, HMGP Office, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950 between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Government observed holidays upon presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CNMI Treasury by cash or credit in the amount of **\$25.00** for the ITB package set.

All interested bidders must include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid package to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Pohnpei Way, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Bidding procedures shall fully comply with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, revised through May 24, 2001, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor, and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

There will be a pre-bid meeting for this project on **October 3, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. ChST** at Department of Public Safety, Saipan. Questions or requests for clarification shall be submitted in writing to Ms. Leona DeLeon Guerrero, Program Manager, via email at ldlguerrero@omb.gov.mp no later than **October 10, 2022**. Responses to questions or clarification will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **ITB22-GOV-42200152 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters- Department of Public Safety Susupe Buildings**. One original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement Services, 1st Floor Horiguchi Building, Kopa Di Oru Street, Garapan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **9:30 a.m. ChST, October 19, 2022**. Bidders outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days to receive their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement Services no later than **9:30 a.m. ChST October 19, 2022**, must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via email to bidintent@dof.gov.mp. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 19, 2022**, and mailed to the Director of Procurement Services P.O. BOX 510008 CK, Saipan MP 96950 and the bid documents must be received no later than **October 26, 2022**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be a cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement Services, 1st Floor Horiguchi Building, Kopa Di Oru Street, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950, at **9:30 a.m. ChST, November 2, 2022**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open and read at **9:30 a.m. ChST, October 19, 2022**.

Bids higher than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the proposal. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check, or other forms acceptable to the Government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety satisfactory to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and ITB Number and a notation on the face of the cheque: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted, it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Before the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit the following:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has the authority to issue a bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the Procurement Services Director, to substitute an acceptable bond before executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only 1) Cash, 2) U.S. Government Securities, 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on U.S. Security Exchange, 4) Real property owned in fee simple in the U.S.; and 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completing this project is 120 calendar days upon issuing a Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be \$100.00/day.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the CNMI.

The Government reserves the right to reject any proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a proposal if in the best interest of the CNMI. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Patrick C. Guerrero
Governor's Authorized Representative

Francisco C. Aguon, Acting Director
CNMI Procurement Services

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Seventeenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Monday, September 26, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Please see the link below.

AGENDA¹

- I. Swearing-in of Student Representative
- II. Preliminary
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Public Comments²
- IV. Reports
 1. Commissioner of Education
 - a. Financial Status Report
 - i. Federal
 - ii. Local
 - b. Others
- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. New Business
 1. State Level Teacher of the Year
 2. Exit Conference with Auditors
- VII. Executive Session³
 1. Legal Updates
 2. Personnel
 3. Other matters
- VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/99570587234?pwd=NGFENmJwRllkMUVxbUNXtkVmbktrdz09>
Meeting ID: 995 7058 7234
Passcode: 500488

¹ In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.
² Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
³ Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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Maritime school offers 1st USCG-approved course in CNMI

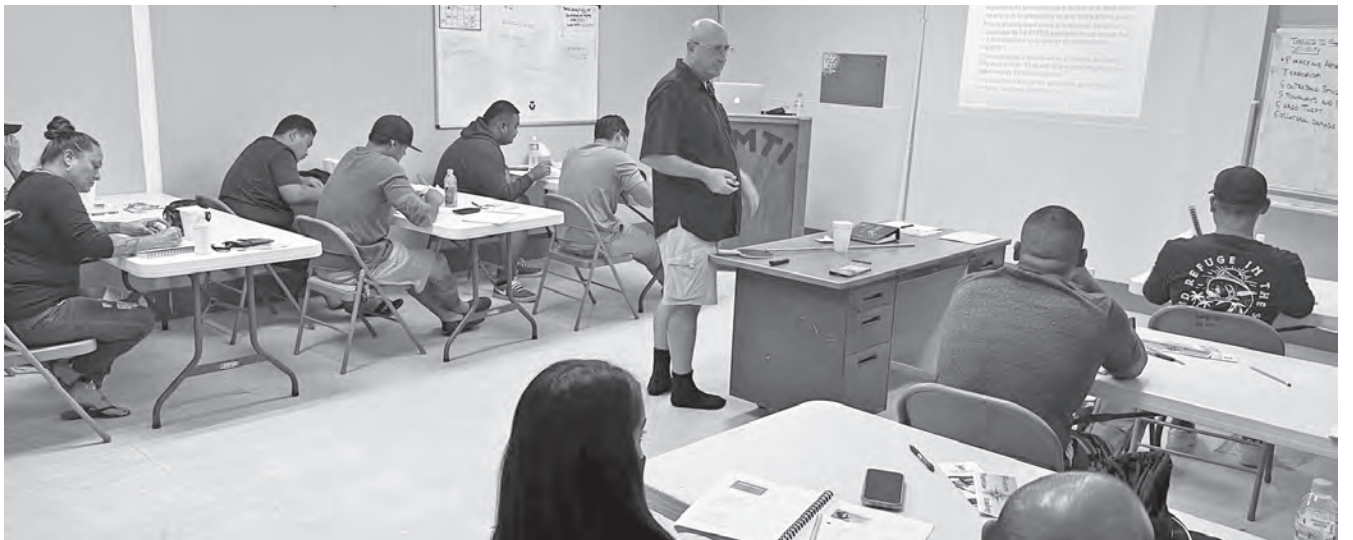
Western Pacific Maritime Academy has announced that it's offering its U.S. Coast Guard-approved course on the CNMI.

Last Saturday, Oct. 17, WPM offered its first inaugural maritime course to the public. The vessel security course was given to a full house of 12 candidates who are either mariners holding a Merchant Marine Credential or those who wish to become professional mariners.

WPMA is a non-profit corporation located right here on Saipan with its mar-

itime offices and classrooms located at Northern Marianas Technical Institute in Lower Base. The academy will be offering a full suite of USCG-approved maritime courses and services to the seafaring public. Included in its offerings are free seminars to the public on how to obtain an MMC.

WPMA's workforce development program steers candidates into high-paying jobs in the maritime sector as entry level credentialed professional mariners as deck seamen, engineers, or



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Western Pacific Maritime offered its first inaugural maritime course to the public last Oct. 17 at the Northern Marianas Technical Institute in Lower Base.

members of the catering department.

An entry level seaman in the U.S. Merchant Marine can earn upwards of \$5,000 per month through one of a number of Maritime Unions or Military Sealift Command. In the wake of COVID-19, the maritime sector is experiencing a huge demand for credentialed mariners.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada has approved a four-year high school vocational maritime track at Kagman High School, and has signaled his intent to expand the program CNMI wide in the very near future. The PSS Maritime Vocation Track will graduate students

to be fully credentialed to enter the maritime workforce as fully credentialed mariners. Within the vocational courses are college-bound STEM courses that will prime students to further their education in one of several Maritime Academies. Maritime colleges graduate deck and engineering merchant officers who may also serve on active duty or reserve officer in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Coast Guard.

For further information on programs, contact Selina Taitano at staitano@wpma.net or Capt. Michael Bacher at (670) 789-1636, mbacher@wpma.net. (PR)



GUAM & COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
WEBEX MEETING SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
Honolulu Regional Office - Public Contact Team


Will host a Virtual Benefits Workshop for Veterans, Family Members, Surviving Spouses, and Community Providers
on
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

From
4PM-6PM (GUAM & CNMI LOCAL TIME)

To participate please join us in Cisco Webex by clicking or copying and pasting the below links into your browser:
<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=m217f586370630c20934e3cff6dd1f8ca>

You can join via Computer, Phone Audio (1-404-397-1596, 27627953215##), or Webex Mobile App. Meeting Password: KawpuNf\$268

Benefits Workshop Topics:
Compensation, Service Connection, Pension, Homeless, COD, MST, Women Veterans, Education & Training, Veteran Readiness & Employment, Home Loan Guaranty, DIC, Survivors' Pension, & Burial and Plot Internment Allowance



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 • Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315 • www.dcrm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of September 23, 2022

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. U.S.A. Fanter Corporation, Ltd.	08/05/2022 SMS-2012-X-061-A1	Cement Batching Plant & Hollow Block Facility	Kannat Tabla, Saipan	Major Siting	On Hold
2. Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.	08/15/2022 SMS-2022-056	AK Toyota Lexus Saipan Dealership Facility	Puerto Rico, Saipan	Major Siting	Certified Complete* 09/13/2022
3. Sea-Lago, Inc.	09/08/2022 SPLm-2022-059	Drydock - Stars & Stripes	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 09/09/2022
4. Saipan Sea Cruises, Inc.	09/08/2022 SPLm-2022-060	Drydock - Haggan Tasi	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 09/09/2022
5. Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR)	09/09/2022 SS-2022-061	Construction of a Concrete Beach Pavilion	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review*
6. Department of Public Works (DPW)	09/21/2022 SS-2022-062	Route 33 - Beach Road Repair (CDBG - Disaster Relief)	Beach Road Oleai - Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Application Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Christmas in the Marianas returns in December 2022

Christmas in The Marianas is anticipated to return this year with all its brilliance and festivities, according to Marianas Visitors Authority.

The MVA has started preliminary planning for the annual signature event, which will feature holiday entertainment for visitors and residents on Saturday evenings in Garapan, Saipan.

"We are excited to be moving forward with plans to provide a festive celebration for our visitors and residents during the Christmas and New Year's period," said MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. "Christmas in The Marianas is something the community and our visitors love, and it's something visitors can include in their plans to enjoy while in The Marianas. In spite of the challenges we face as a destination, this is our opportunity to brighten the community

with the holiday spirit and share with our visitors the Marianas' way of celebrating the holidays. As in prior years, our local school children will again be a big part of the celebration."

The MVA is now reaching out to schools and tourism partners to determine the exact dates and schedule of activities and will be announcing those details once finalized. In prior years, Christmas in The Marianas has included a Festival of Lights parade, Christmas caroling and skits, a Christmas Costume Catwalk, and Christmas Tree decorating.

A meeting with interested schools will be announced shortly. Schools interested to join the event may contact lead event coordinator and MVA Community Projects Specialist Jack Aranda at ja-randa@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3200/1. (PR)



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AS OF AUGUST 22, 2022

12 CASES PER DAY | AVERAGE CASES INCREASED BY **1267%** (FROM 2 WEEKS AGO) | DEATH DECREASED BY **30%**

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF PANDEMIC:

1 OF 4 RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN INFECTED | **12,953** TOTAL REPORTED CASES | **39** DEATHS

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September 18-24, 2022 - Child Passenger Safety Week
September 24, 2022 - National Seat Check Saturday



For more information call CNMI Department of Public Safety
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www.dps.gov.mp

[NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat](https://www.nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat)

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

As shootings continue unabated, they exact an emotional and economic toll

Gun violence in Philadelphia continues unabated—with each killing more senseless and heart-breaking than the next.

Consider the losses sustained in one four-day stretch earlier this month: A mother of three was killed by a stray bullet while sweeping outside of a recreation center in West Philadelphia, a man in his mid-30s was shot in the head in Overbrook while carrying groceries home to his wife, a 17-year-old girl was shot and killed while walking her dog in Frankford, and a 37-year-old SEPTA manager was gunned down on the front lawn of his home in Germantown.

The shootings—nearly 1,700 so far this year in our city to date—have unleashed a cascade of trauma on family members, friends, neighbors, and first responders—and exacted a mounting financial toll. Earlier this week, *The Inquirer* detailed the depths of the human trauma that is impacting nearly every corner of Philadelphia.

The shootings add to the already high stress levels from the COVID-19 pandemic that has claimed more than one million lives, a deadly insurrectionist riot at the U.S. Capitol, the war in Ukraine that could easily spiral into a global conflict, a zigzagging economy, a deepening political divide, and severe weather events brought on by climate change.

A recent poll found three-fourths of Americans consider gun violence a major problem, while eight in 10 say gun violence is on the rise. Meanwhile, 71% of those polled think that gun safety laws should be stricter. Such a commonsense move would save lives and money.

More broadly, gun violence is impacting how people live their lives. Eighty-one percent said they are anxious about gun violence, while 40% say they have avoided going to public places with large gatherings, such as movie theaters, nightclubs, and concerts, according to a survey by the American Psychological Association.

The trauma from the shootings has an especially grievous effect on the health of children. Guns are now the leading cause of death among children ages 1 to 19, overtaking motor vehicle crashes, which were the leading cause of child deaths for more than 60 years.

The pain and suffering of this crisis reaches far and deep. Studies show that children exposed to gun violence experience more mental health issues than other children, including depression, suicide, and anxiety. They are also more prone to being violent themselves and are more likely to carry guns.

Black and brown people are disproportionately impacted by gun violence, including the nonstop killings of Black Ameri-

See **SHOOTINGS** on Next Page

Tukje @2022 KINGTEXTURES



"BESIDES ABANDONED MILITARY EQUIPMENT, WHAT ELSE DID THE RUSSIANS LEAVE BEHIND?"

No, Mr. President, the pandemic isn't over

On "60 Minutes" on Sunday, President Joe Biden declared "the pandemic is over." Well into our third year of battling COVID-19, we all wish that were true. But unfortunately, that is a fantasy right now. All the data tell us the virus is not contained. Far too many people are dying and suffering. And new, worrisome variants are on the horizon.

There are 400 to 500 Americans dying of COVID each day, and that high daily death toll has remained constant for the last six months. In July 2021, we were down to just over 200 deaths per day, half of where we are now. A daily toll in the hundreds is a tragedy, because most COVID deaths could have been prevented by vaccinations, boosters and early treatments.

It's not just the deaths. There have been more than 2 million confirmed new COVID infections in the last month, and considering the untested and unreported cases, the real number is a multiple of that, most probably at least fivefold. This means the virus is still fulfilling its principal objective of finding a huge number of new or repeat hosts to help spread and perpetuate itself.

Some percentage of these people who get infected or reinfected will develop long COVID, manifesting chronic and frequently disabling symptoms for many months or years. There is still no validated treatment for long COVID. The only way to be certain of preventing it is to never become infected.

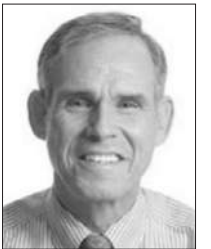
In June 2021, we were at our nadir, averaging fewer than 12,000 new confirmed cases in the U.S. per day. That is containment of the virus, a level we can live with, associated with low numbers of hospitalizations and deaths. It is by no means "zero COVID," the policy of suppressing all infections, which has proved to be unattainable around the world. But it is achievable.

But that didn't last because new variants came on the scene, first delta and then the omicron variant and subvariant family in successive waves. The virus substantially evolved to evade our immune response and become far more contagious. The myth that the virus would ultimately become milder has been fully debunked.

We will remain vulnerable if we pretend the pandemic is over. The United States is a negative outlier for booster shots, with only 1 in 3 Americans having had any booster shot. For people 50 and older, only 1 in 4 have had a second booster (fourth shot) even though repeated studies have indicated a lifesaving benefit from the second booster. The U.S. currently ranks 72nd in the world for its booster rate, which is extraordinary given we are the lead manufacturer of vaccines, were the first to validate them, and are purchasing and wasting tens of millions of shots that cannot find a recipient. Every other rich country in the world has at

By **ERIC J. TOPOL**
Los Angeles Times

Eric J. Topol is a professor of molecular medicine at Scripps Research and author of the newsletter Ground Truths.



least double our booster rate.

We should redefine "fully vaccinated" to mean at least three shots, not just the initial two. But the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention refuses to budge on that definition.

We should encourage all eligible Americans to get the new boosters, which are fully aligned with the current BA.5 variant that accounts for almost 90% of cases. Yet the uptake has been disappointing, leaving the nation highly vulnerable. And now the president has declared "the pandemic is over," which surely will not help to get more Americans boosted.

Two intertwined, troubling issues also illustrate why that statement is disconnected from the science.

First, there is now strong evidence of imprinting, meaning that after being exposed to an earlier strain of COVID-19, we do not mount as strong an immune response to new strains. This gives the virus a further edge. Not only are some new variants more evasive of our immune system, but also our bodies are less capable of taking them on when we do fight back.

Then there are the new variants that have already surfaced, such as BA.2.75.2, which exhibits more evasion of our immune system than any prior version. It is sadly inevitable that this variant, or another one with many new, important mutations, will lead to another wave months from now. Such variants are so distinct from what we've been exposed to—that our immune systems recognize after infections and vaccines—that we will be less protected against future waves.

We desperately need a way to block infections and transmission, along with more durable, effective and variant-proof vaccines.

One asset that would encourage more people to get boosted, and would be better at blocking infections and spread, would be nasal, oral or inhaled vaccines, rather than a shot. Two such vaccines have recently received approval in China and India, but the

See **MR. PRESIDENT** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Why is ‘quiet quitting’ a thing for everyone, including Serena Williams? Quit out loud

There’s not much Serena Williams can’t do. Win tennis matches? Raise a family? Run a thriving venture capital firm? Be an international symbol of grace and strength and resilience? Easy-peasy.

But dare her to say the word “quitting”—as in “quitting tennis”—and you’ll see her struggle. Prior to this year’s U.S. Open tennis championship, from which she was knocked out in the third round after two thrilling matches, Williams said she was leaving the sport she’s dominated for decades. But it won’t be easy, she admitted. In fact, she couldn’t even find the right word for it, picking up and then discarding terms such as “stepping away” or “transitioning” that just don’t quite do it for her. “Maybe the best word to describe what I’m up to,” she wrote in a recent essay in *Vogue*, “is evolution.”

She’s clear about this much, however: Whatever that perfect word turns out to be, it definitely won’t be quitting.

Thus Williams is at least partially a practitioner of the hottest new alliterative trend since mindfulness meditation: quiet quitting. Stories on the concept are showing up everywhere, from *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times* to *The Wall Street Journal*. It’s a frequent Twitter and TikTok theme. Quiet quitting is “taking social media by storm,” noted the *Post*’s Taylor Telford, and it doesn’t stop at the water’s edge. In *Great Britain’s Spectator*, Stephen Daisley writes that it means doing “whatever is asked of you provided it’s lawful, reasonable and within your contract. Do not one thing more than that.”

To be sure, that doesn’t sound like the hard-charging, indefatigable Williams at all. Indeed, the only similarity between one of the greatest athletes in history and some sneaky slacker who’s playing Wordle in her cubicle is this: a reluctance to say the word “quit.” Williams’ avoidance of it is no doubt fueled by the same basic bias that has turned contemporary workers into quiet quitters. We see quitting as failing. We see quitting as losing. We’re supposed to be gritty and persevering—and quitting looks impulsive and weak. Backing away seems shameful. Moving on is

for cowards and sissies. And so we pull our punches, modifying the word “quitting” with “quiet,” hoping to remove the sting by making the phrase sound almost cute.

As the author of a forthcoming book on our strangely blinkered cultural attitude toward giving up, I’m bemused by the rise of quiet quitting. It’s treated like a cool new concept—when it’s neither cool nor new. It surges through classic literature, energizing works such as Herman Melville’s novella “Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street,” first published in 1853, which tells the story of a mysterious clerk who does less and less until finally he’s doing nothing at all. “I would prefer not to” is Bartleby’s signature reply to any request made by his employer. Bartleby is the original quiet quitter. Spoiler alert: It doesn’t end well for him.

Why are we so resistant to the idea of quitting? As I argue in my book, the prejudice against giving up—even when it’s clearly the best option—really began to pick up steam during the Industrial Revolution in Victorian England. An enterprising Scot named Samuel Smiles published a book titled “Self-Help” in 1859. A series of biographical portraits of engineers and builders, the book extolled the virtues of drive and self-sacrifice, claiming that success is exclusively a matter of hard work—with no assists from noble birth or lucky breaks. That was a nifty way of distracting people from income inequality and social injustice.

And the message still resonates. In 2016, “Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance” by Angela Duckworth was a bestseller. Sticking with something that’s hard—even if it’s not what you want to do or be—is an index of character, these books claim. To be called a “quitter” is the worst of insults.

So here comes quiet quitting, enabled by an economy that’s going gangbusters. You can do less and less these days before a supervisor even considers a reprimand; chances are, she couldn’t easily dig up a replacement for you. Instead of making the effort to decide what you truly want out of work—and life—and setting off to find it, you can just loaf along, watching the clock, bragging to your friends about how cleverly you’re hoodwink-

By **JULIA KELLER**
Chicago Tribune



*Julia Keller is a former literary critic and staff writer at the Tribune who won a Pulitzer Prize in 2005. Keller is the author of *Quitting: A Life Strategy: The Myth of Perseverance—and How the New Science of Giving Up Can Set You Free*, which will be published in April by Grand Central.*

ing the boss. The prejudice against quitting is simply the latest iteration of an old and dubious idea that posits success as a solo act, totally dependent upon individual effort—and not the result of a complex array of factors such as sex, race, income level, and physical and intellectual endowment. As long as we judge poverty as a moral failing, we can justify turning our backs on those in need—because we can always claim that they brought it on themselves by not working hard enough. By quitting.

Yet quitting is a vigorous, definitive act, a bold and life-affirming choice. Often there’s nothing noble—or even very smart—about the avoidance of it. Quitting is a positive, not a negative. So instead of tiptoeing around it, instead of hoping nobody in charge notices that your nose has been nowhere near a grindstone in, like, forever—why not simply leave a situation that no longer suits you? Quitting isn’t capitulation. It’s strategy.

Deep down, I think Williams gets that. She may have trouble saying the word “quit”—and so would any elite athlete, including Roger Federer, another tennis legend who recently announced his retirement—but she knows what she’s doing. “I need to be two feet into tennis,” she wrote in *Vogue*, “or two feet out.” No half measures for her.

No matter what Williams calls it, she’s all in on quitting—because she understands that it’s the perfect portal into tomorrow.

SHOOTINGS

From Page 10

cans by police officers. Besides their emotional impact, those murders foster a deep distrust of the police in Black communities.

The violence also has a financial cost that is borne by all taxpayers.

A recent report by the city of Philadelphia found each murder costs \$1.42 million in medical expenses, lost earnings, property damage, and criminal justice costs. The report found that the 351 homicides in 2018 had an economic cost of nearly \$500 million. The city has already surpassed that number of murders this year. Nonfatal shootings cost nearly \$50,000 in medical expenses and lost productivity. The cost to the city alone was more than \$65 million in 2018.

A separate report by the city controller found shootings also reduce property values. The report found a single murder reduced the value of homes sold within three-quarters of a mile of the incident by an average of 2.3%. Reducing gun deaths would add to city coffers. The report said a 10% decrease in homicides over five years would boost the amount of tax revenue the city collects by \$114 million.

MR. PRESIDENT

From Page 10

U.S. has not backed any of these programs. Nor has it made any strong commitments to developing second-generation vaccines—not boosters, which are like remodeling a house, but truly new vaccines with more powerful nanoparticles containing antigens or mRNA that could take on the entire sarbecovirus family.

That could be part of how we get to a point of credibly saying “the pandemic is over.” To assert this, it takes a look back after we have achieved a durable, stable, low number of infections and their sequelae for many months.

We will get through this, but we’re not through it yet.

Philadelphia does not have a monopoly on gun violence. Nearly 49,000 Americans were killed by guns in 2021, shattering the record set the year before. Across the country, the economic cost of gun violence is \$557 billion a year, according to a separate report.

Pervasive trauma and the steep financial cost are just two reasons why gun safety laws are necessary. But preventing senseless gun deaths should be a call to action for responsible leaders at every level of government—and a matter of paramount concern for each and every one of us.

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Teaching students to scrutinize online fact from fiction

A new Illinois law allows high schools to teach media literacy to students in all subjects. In case skeptics are tempted to portray this as some kind of underground conspiracy to indoctrinate kids, it’s exactly the opposite. There’s no agenda here other than to arm young people with better tools to distinguish fact from fiction and to be on the lookout for deliberate misinformation.

This is an age where computer programs can generate video or alter photographs to make it appear that something concocted digitally actually happened in real life. There are thousands of people out there who have nothing better to do with their lives than to make up stories disguised as actual news. Before anyone has a chance to debunk such social media postings, an item might have already gone viral by being shared and shared again.

That’s how QAnon got started.

Today’s political context is rife with examples. But the manipulation of media for surreptitious goals goes way back to include the John F. Kennedy assassination, U.S. moon landings and even the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. And because some people will believe anything, professional manipulators like Infowars’ Alex Jones gladly feed their conspiratorial appetites with nonsense, such as that the 2012 massacre of little kids at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut was faked and that grieving parents were just actors. Jones, at long last, faces multimillion-dollar court judgments for the harm he inflicted on the real parents of real Sandy Hook victims with his lies.

So why turn high school students into misinformation debunkers? Young people who heavily rely on their phones to consume social media and internet content are probably the biggest recirculators of bogus content. Some think they’re sharing something funny. Others take it seriously and want to alert others. Either way, misinformation postings that deserve to die in obscurity wind up going viral and being accepted by the gullible as fact.






“The idea is to teach about asking questions” about how such messages are constructed, Yonty Friesem, an associate professor of civic media at Columbia College in Chicago, told National Public Radio. “Who is behind it? What’s going on here? And how does it affect me and society? And what’s my role in how I’m using media?” Friesem helped write the new Illinois law.

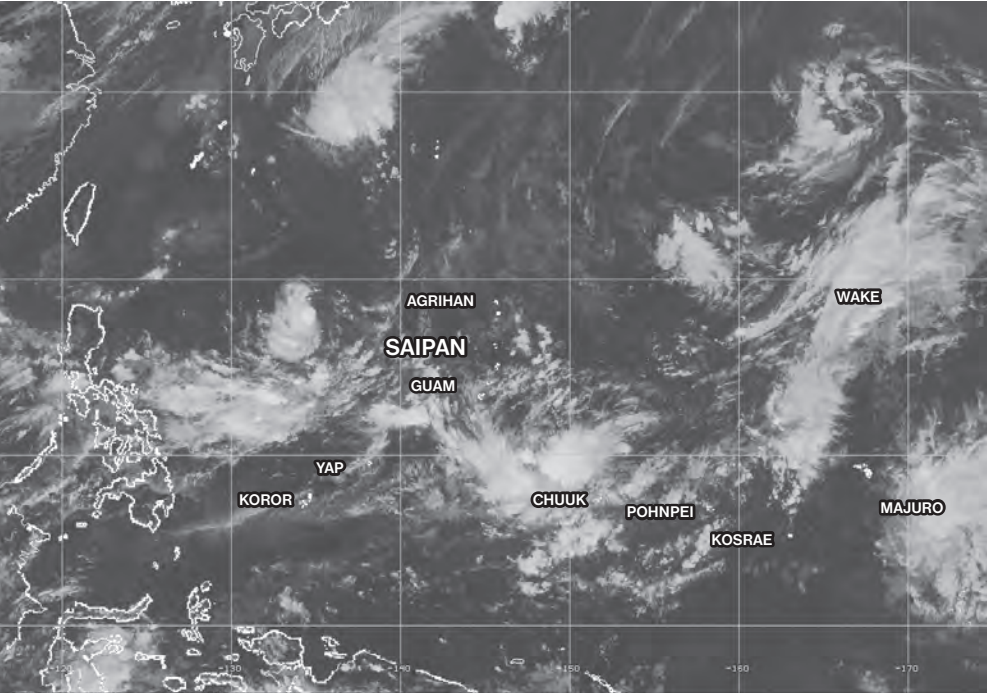
Among the questions he wants kids to ask is: “How do you assess, like, the media effects on yourself but others to trigger emotions and behavior?” In other words, how are people trying to manipulate their audience to win acceptance of bogus postings and get them to take action by recirculating it?

This isn’t about censorship but rather teaching healthy scrutiny among the upcoming generation of news consumers. More states should consider such laws to fight back against the Alex Joneses of the world.

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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny		Partly sunny		A 50 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy		Showers likely. Cloudy		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy	
88°	77°	88°	78°	86°	77°	86°	77°	86°	77°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 6:35 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite and radar imagery showed isolated showers over the Marianas this morning. An area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms were located to the east and southeast of the local waters. North winds prevail across the local area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:37 AM	4:39 PM	-
Saturday	4:28 AM	5:17 PM	-
Sunday	5:18 AM	5:54 PM	-
Monday	6:08 AM	6:31 PM	-
Tuesday	6:59 AM	7:09 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Thunderstorms	62° / 52°
Beijing	Sunny	79° / 49°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 74°
London	Light Rain	63° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	86° / 63°
Manila	Thunderstorms	87° / 75°
Melbourne	Light Rain	59° / 48°
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
New York	Rain	73° / 50°
Osaka	Rain	78° / 72°
Paris	Cloudy	70° / 54°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	81° / 62°
Rome	Sunny	77° / 56°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	95° / 62°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	74° / 56°
Seoul	Rain	71° / 56°
Tokyo	Showers	75° / 73°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	81° / 52°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
12:17 AM	Low Tide	1.03
5:18 AM	High Tide	1.65
12:13 PM	Low Tide	0.14
7:02 PM	High Tide	1.81

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2022							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam
SAIPAN-NARITA				NARITA-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:00AM	9:30AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	2:00 AM+1	2, 4, 7
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	4
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3, 4, 7	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	3, 7
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
				TW307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
				TW307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:35PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS									
INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022									
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN						
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY				
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)				
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.					
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)				
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN						
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY				
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.					
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.					
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN						
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY				
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.					
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.					

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022									
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY		
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily		
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun		
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun						
				3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri		
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily		
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA					
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY		
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri		
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY		
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily		
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily		
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily		
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily		
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily		
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily		
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily		

MINA completes Tinian Harbor marine debris removal



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance staff and volunteers removed a total of 68,198 lbs of debris from the Tinian Harbor.

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance is excited to announce that its work on the removal of marine debris in the targeted areas of the Tinian Harbor, where Typhoon Yutu caused widespread devastation, has officially been completed.

Together with its partners, MINA’s team has removed a total of 68,198 lbs of debris from the Tinian Harbor. Through the efforts of this activity, over 90 acres of marine habitat have been restored.

MINA would like to extend

its sincere gratitude to its partners and supporting agencies in Tinian.

A great big thank you to Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Edwin P. Aldan and his hard-working staff at the Emergency Preparedness Division, Latte Marine Diving & Salvage, Johnston Applied Marine Sciences, Tinian Shipping Services, LLC, Commonwealth Ports Authority-Tinian, FPA Pacific Corp, MINA Tasi Watch rangers and volunteers and the residents of the island of Tinian.

MINA would like to extend their heartfelt thank you for their continuous support and generous hospitality.

Work on the removal of marine debris will continue in the coming months when MINA, its volunteers, and partners will focus their efforts on the coastal areas of Southern Saipan.

This project was made possible by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the NOAA Marine Debris Program.





Roofing tin salvaged from the Tinian Harbor being readied for transport for recycling.



Rubber tires being hauled out from the Tinian Harbor.

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance is a 501 (c) (3) environmental conservation organization and has been serving the Marianas since 2005. MINA fosters community and science-based conservation programs to enhance and sustain the CNMI’s environments and cultures.

To learn more about MINA’s efforts of removing typhoon-created marine debris from Tinian and Saipan, please contact Program director Becky Furey at beckfurey.mina@gmail.com. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-22-040

A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary for the removal of the existing A-16 Sewer Lift Station 350 KW Generator and Automatic Transfer Switch, procurement of a new 350 KW generator and Automatic Transfer Switch, modification of the existing concrete generator pad to match the new pad size requirement (if needed), restoration of the existing oil containment berm, repair of exhaust & muffler, and equipment start-up and commissioning. The work shall be done in accordance with the Scope of Work and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the sewer system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **September 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “**CUC-IFB-22-040, A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement**” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 13, 2022**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of One Hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bonds must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 23, 2022** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, P&S, Purchasing Technician Senior via email, marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO

Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN

Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 22 – 101

Opening Date: September 21, 2022

Closing Date: October 04, 2022

POSITION TITLE:
DEPARTMENT:
LOCATION:
ANNUAL SALARY:
CONTRACT:
POSITION(S):

Trades Assistant
Water Division
Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
\$16,742.00 - \$22,602.00 per annum, Non - Exempt
Not Contracted
Two (2)

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Drinking Water & Wastewater Division Manager or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities.
- Performing daily well and pump station facility maintenance, cleaning and monitoring;
- Assisting plumbing and chlorine maintenance crew;
- Utilizing digging equipment for locating and repairing leaks;
- Repairing and securing pressure reducer valves, main valves, service lines and laterals, and booster pumps;
- Assisting with meter installation and repair;
- Collecting water samples.
- Must be able to lift objects weighing at 40 lbs. or more.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS Diploma.
Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.
Skills in: Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

• Licensing:

- Valid Driver’s License with appropriate class.


All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950


Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131

CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
RE-ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 087

Opening Date: September 21, 2022
Closing Date: October 04, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	Trades Assistant
DEPARTMENT:	Wastewater Division
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	\$16,742.00 to \$22,602.00 per annum, Non- Exempt
CONTRACT:	Not Contracted
POSITION(S):	One(1)

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Drinking Water & Wastewater Division Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of the Wastewater Division.

Duties:

- The Trades Assistant assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities.
- Performing daily well and pump station facility maintenance, cleaning and monitoring;
- Assisting plumbing and chlorine maintenance crew;
- Utilizing digging equipment for locating and repairing leaks;
- Repairing and securing pressure reducer valves, main valves, service lines and laterals, and booster pumps;
- Assisting with meter installation and repair;
- Collecting water samples;
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.


Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education.
Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.
Skills in: Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing/Certification: • Valid U.S. Driver's License with appropriate class;

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.


How to Apply: You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, from Monday to Friday, 7:30am – 4:30pm. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 22-100

Opening Date: September 21, 2022
Closing Date: October 4, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	Trades Assistant
DEPARTMENT:	Power Generation
LOCATION:	Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	\$16,742.00 - \$22,602.00 per annum, Non-Exempt
CONTRACT:	Not contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Rota Resident Manager or his/her designee. The Trades Assistant assists with the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, incinerators, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks.

Duties:

- Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities;
- Monitoring Plant systems as assigned;
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection;
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used;
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete;
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports;
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily work activities;
- Assisting with equipment inspections, cleaning, corrosion control, and painting;
- Operating incinerators; oil and water separator pump, servicing and preparing oil filters;
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing debris and housekeeping;
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma/GED or ABE Program AS. Training and knowledge in operations repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities desired but not required.
Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.
Skills in: Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Work inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work. Work in environments exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities. Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends and holidays, may be on call for emergency response.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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4 UOG students receive \$22,000 in scholarships

Rotary clubs in Guam and Tokyo provided \$22,000 in scholarships to four University of Guam students in an awards ceremony held laast Sept. 21 at UOG.

Acting UOG president Anita Borja Enriquez and Mark Duarte, director of the Financial Aid and One Stop Office, led the awarding of the scholarships to:

■ Aisleabesh Maglaque, a senior biology major focusing on the biomedical field. She received a \$10,000 scholarship from the Rotary Club of Tokyo-West.

■ Brian Barcinas, a senior studying civil engineering and an airman in the Air National Guard, received a \$10,000 scholarship from the Rotary International District 2750.

■ Renona Call, a junior studying elementary education, received a \$1,000 award from the Rotary Club of Northern Guam.

■ Kyla M. Tuazon, a junior focusing on plant science and marine biology, was awarded \$1,000. Her scholarship came from a \$500 donation from businesswoman Son Wha “Jenny” Gong and a matching amount from the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost.

“These scholarship awards will help students who want to give back to our local community — a future engineer who wants to help improve Guam’s infrastructure, a scholar who



From left, standing, Mark Duarte, director of the Financial Aid and One Stop Office at the University of Guam; Ina Lee, president of the Rotary Club of Northern Guam; Rotarian Luckie Sakamoto; acting UOG president Anita Borja Enriquez; Sharleen Santos-Bamba, interim vice provost of Academic Excellence, Graduate Studies, and Online Learning; Rotarian Bernie Provido Schumann; Son Wha “Jenny” Gong; and Gia Camacho attend the awarding of scholarships Sept. 21 at UOG. Seated, from left, scholarship recipients Aisleabesh Maglaque, Brian Barcinas, and Renona Call. Fourth scholarship recipient Kyla M. Tuazon is not in the photo.

wants to be a medical doctor, a future elementary school teacher, and a future plant science and marine biology researcher in the Marianas,” said Enriquez. “Rotarians in both Guam and Japan are investing in our students’ career goals and supporting our future by building the capacity for our island’s workforce.”

Maglaque thanked the Rotary clubs for their support.

“I aspire to become a physician to directly contribute to enhancing our island’s medical workforce as well as bridging the gaps in our healthcare system,” she said.

Barcinas said he is pursuing

ing civil engineering to help become a part of the efforts to improve the island’s infrastructure.

Call said she would love to teach elementary school children on the island.

Tuazon is interested in plant science and marine life.

Ina Lee, president of the Rotary Club of Northern Guam; fellow Rotarians Luckie Sakamoto and Bernie Provido Schumann were among guests who joined Enriquez, Duarte, and Sharleen Santos-Bamba, UOG interim vice provost of Academic Excellence, Graduate Studies, and Online Learning at the event. **(PR)**

GRMC highlights its Red Coat Ambassadors Program

DEDEDO, Guam—The Guam Regional Medical City recently launched its Red Coat Ambassadors Program.

As you enter the Guam Regional Medical City lobby, you will be greeted by friendly staff dressed in “red coats”—ready to provide you with assistance and guidance. They are GRMC’s Customer Relations and Patient Experience staff; and yes, they are wearing red coats! Why red? Red is described as warm, vibrant, and intense and it can grab attention. It is the color that is often associated with love and comfort. At GRMC, red takes on a new meaning — it signifies our organizational goal to exceed expectations in every aspect of our patient experience.

Our Customer Relations and Patient Experience staff, in red coats, are the first to greet and welcome all patients, families, visitors, and staff with a friendly smile and a warm “Hafa Adai!”

They offer information to our patients and our guests, give directions, and guide them on where they need to



The Guam Regional Medical City’s Red Coat Ambassadors are the warm and friendly staff of the Customer Relations and Patient Experience Department who welcome all who visit the hospital. From left, Benita Jones, patient experience partner; Kaelene Paulino, customer relations partner; Tricia Chandler, Patient Experience and Customer Relations manager; Kyra Dela Cruz, customer relations partner; Shella Mae Segovia, customer relations partner; and Brendyn Padayao, patient experience partner.

go, provide a compassionate and respectful listening ear, or simply being there where and when they are needed most.

With this program, patterned from our parent company, The Medical City, in the Philippines, GRMC aims to provide a positive first and lasting impression on our patient partners and visitors by

providing them assistance with navigation and information and to build a meaningful human connection with everyone who comes through our doors. For more information, please contact: Kimberly G.B. Teves Communications & Social Media Specialist Email: kimberlygrace.teves@grmc.gu. **(PR)**

Quichocho is CCP's newest golf course superintendent

YONA, Guam—Country Club of the Pacific Guam in Yona recently announced Brian Quichocho's appointment as its newest Golf Course Superintendent.



He will assist the management team in overall golf course operations and maintenance. Quichocho has served as golf course superintendent for Onward Talofofo Golf Club since 2006, and previously as an assistant golf course superintendent at the Onward Mangilao Golf Club in 2005.

With over 26 years of experience in golf course operations, turfgrass management, and country club maintenance, Quichocho now joins CCP to further guide the progression of the Yona country club.

"I am excited to welcome Brian to the CCP team," said Ben Ferguson, senior managing director of P.H.R. Ken Micronesia, Inc. and general manager of Pacific Islands Club. "His multifaceted professional experience speaks for itself, and he will serve a fundamental role in the ongoing and future developments of Guam's oldest and most prestigious golf course."

With a love of golf originating from his childhood, Quichocho first worked in the golf industry as a part-time starter at CCP during his college years at the University of Guam. His time spent at CCP sparked a deeper interest in the golf industry, which led him to

pursue a certification in golf course management at the Mundus Institute, a golf management school located in Phoenix, Arizona.

After completing the certification program at Mundus Institute, he started at Raven Golf Club in Arizona as a spray technician. Quichocho eventually pursued work as an irrigation manager at other Arizona-based country clubs to include Estrella Mountain Ranch and Whirlwind Golf Club.

"Brian has a great hands-on approach to golf course management, and he has already been instrumental in making significant enhancements to the property," added Jonathan Cramer, general manager of CCP. "We are excited to collaborate with him on how we can further grow and develop CCP into Guam's premier golf course."

CCP, which boasts some of the island's most breathtaking views of southern Guam and the Pacific Ocean, is an 18-hole championship golf course that opened in May of 1973. It is currently open from 6m to 6pm. For more information or to make reservations, visit ccpguam.com or call 671-789-1361.

Ken Micronesia, Inc. P.H.R. Ken Micronesia, Inc. is part of the Ken Corp. group (Ken Corp), which was established as a high-end real estate company in 1972 and planted roots in Micronesia

with the purchase of Aqua Resort Club in Saipan in 2004 and Pacific Islands Club in Guam in 2005.

Since then, it has added five additional hotels and a golf course to its Micronesia portfolio—Rihga Royal Laguna Guam Resort, Hilton Guam Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Guam, Hotel Nikko Guam, The Tsubaki Tower, and Country Club of the Pacific. The Ken Corp. Group has 27

hotels in Japan (2 are in development currently) and 9 hotels in the United States, Guam, and Saipan. As its acquisitions increased, so has its commitment to supporting Guam and Micronesia's tourism industry. The company's PHR Club (Premier Hotel & Restaurants Club), is Guam's most upscale membership club, offering exclusive hotel, golf, spa and food and beverage benefits. The company also established its subsidiary P.H.R. Technical Services, Inc., in April 2012 to provide an unprecedented level of technical maintenance, service and repairs for its customers locally. (PR)



GIRLS SCOUTS AT THE MUSEUM

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI Girls Scout attended a painting activity with Linda Concepcion Torres at the NMI Museum last Saturday, Sept. 17. They were led by Reina Camacho and troop leader Jessy Loomis. Girls Scouts attendees by category include Dasiy Girl Scouts Ariah Jade Villagomez, Emma Lee, Mayumi Sato, Ariah Lizama, and Makenna Pangelinan, Brownie Girl Scouts Jacqueline Iris Quitagua, Maia Ada, Azaleah Lizama and Crystin Pangelinan, Junior Girl Scouts Baila Marie Loomis, Lilana Villagomez, and Gianna Rose Moses, and Cadette Girl Scouts Georgia Moses and Vangelyn Serrano.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
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PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMPORTS.COM

INVITATION FOR BID

PROJECT NO.: CPA-IFB-001-23
BIDS SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 24, TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PROCUREMENT OF ONE (1) UNIT TRACTOR & MOWER FOR THE BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

THE BID PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES THE EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER CONSIDERATION IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 AT THE CPA ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURE BUILDING UPON PAYMENT OF A NON-REFUNDABLE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES OF THE BIDS TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-23". BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION \$40-50-1020, \$40-50-1015, & \$40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, FINANCIAL INTEREST, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date 9/23/2022

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEVELOPMENT OF ECHO DOCK
PORT OF SAIPAN
CPA RFP NO. CPA-RFP-010-2022
(CPA CONCESSION NO. SEA 2022-01)

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("Authority") is inviting qualified developers and their development teams to submit sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP") and other contract provisions, for the development of Echo Dock, which is situated north of the Port of Saipan. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone. This RFP is being issued pursuant to NMIAC § 40-70-205.

The RFP Package is available beginning Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at the Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of a non-refundable administrative fee of \$200.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check, or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Other than this administrative fee, proposers are not required to submit a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Authority will hold a briefing for interested parties at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2022, to explain the Authority's development objectives, the RFP process, and to answer questions. The meeting will be held at the Authority's Seaport Conference Room, George Fleming Building. All potential applicants are encouraged to attend but it is not mandatory.

All proposers are requested to pay attention to the following significant dates and times:

Date RFP Package becomes available	August 31, 2022 (8:00 AM)
Date of RFP briefing meeting	September 16, 2022 (10:00 AM)
Deadline to submit Notice of Intent	September 28, 2022 (4:00 PM)
Deadline to submit Statement of Qualifications	October 13, 2022 (4:00 PM)
Notification of qualified applicants of the RFP	October 28, 2022
Deadline for RFP submission	November 30, 2022 (4:00 PM)

Qualified proposers shall submit their sealed proposals to the "CPA Evaluation Committee" and mark the outside cover of its submittal as follows: "RFP Proposal: Confidential - Development of the Echo Dock, Saipan (RFP-010-2022)." Five (5) hard copies and one electronic copy on CD, DVD, or flash drive of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. CHST, Wednesday, November 30, 2022, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date 8/26/2022

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
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PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
BUS PARKING CANOPY REPAIRS
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-004-22

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's (CPA) is a public corporation and autonomous agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). In accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations, CPA is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for repairs to the bus parking canopy repairs at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SA-004-22.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority and is in accordance and compliance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations, Section 40-50-202, Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Administration Office, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Electronic copies may be made available upon written request to Ms. Wendi Prater at wprater@cnmports.com or Ms. Sheri Llagas at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements shall be submitted to Ms. Prater, CPA's Executive Assistant/Project Manager, via email to wprater@cnmports.com or hand delivered to the CPA Administration Office, by no later than 5:00 p.m. CHST, local time, Wednesday, September 21, 2022.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 5:00 p.m. CHST, MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date 8/24/2022

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROJECT NO. CPA-TS-001-22

TINIAN PERIMETER FENCE REPLACEMENT TINIAN HARBOR

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP") and other contract provisions, for awarding a contract for the replacement of seaport perimeter fence, Tinian Harbor, Tinian Island. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and or products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone (NMIAC §40-50-225 (a)). The Scope of Work and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning September 02, 2022, upon payment of \$100.00 in cash, cashier's check or certified check to the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the Tinian International Airport CPA conference room on September 16, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. The conference is not mandatory, but proposers submitting their proposals are requested to attend.

Proposals will be received at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor-Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport no later than 4:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, OCTOBER 07, 2022. Proposals received after the date/time indicated above will not be opened and will be returned to the Proposer.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

September 02, 2022

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
www.cnmports.com

AIRTRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-004-22

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is now accepting sealed bids, subject to the terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bid (the "IFB") and other contract provisions, for bids from individuals, firms, company or corporations to provide Janitorial Services at the Air Traffic Control Tower, Saipan International Airport. The successful bidder will be awarded a two (2) year contract with option to renew for an additional 2 years at the sole discretion of the CPA.

This IFB is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIAC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-205, Invitation for Bids, is applicable to the process followed by the IFB.

Bid Package will be available for pick up beginning August 24, 2022, upon payment of fifty (\$50.00) dollars in cash, cashier's check or certified check to the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport.

Bids will be received at the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport until 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, Friday, September 23, 2022.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked:

"Bids: Janitorial Services at the Air Traffic Control Tower, Project No. CPA-IFB-004-22, CONFIDENTIAL".

Please submit one original and two copies of your bid to the CPA Executive Director's Office mentioned above.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation for Bid; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

August 24, 2022
DATE

Business

‘ART OF THE STEAL’ Trump accused of vast fraud in New York suit



AP

Donald Trump, right, sits with his children, from left, Eric Trump, Donald Trump Jr., and Ivanka Trump during a groundbreaking ceremony for the Trump International Hotel on July 23, 2014, in Washington.

NEW YORK (AP)—Former President Donald Trump padded his net worth by billions of dollars and habitually misled banks and others about the value of prized assets like golf courses, hotels and his Mar-a-Lago estate, New York’s attorney general said Wednesday in a lawsuit that seeks to permanently disrupt the Republican’s ability to do business in the state.

Attorney General Letitia James dubbed it “The art of the steal.”

The lawsuit, filed in state court in Manhattan, is the culmination of the Democrat’s three-year civil investigation into Trump and the Trump Organization. Trump’s three eldest children, Donald Jr., Ivanka and Eric Trump, were also named as defendants, along with two longtime company executives.

In its 222 pages, the suit struck at the core of what made Trump famous, taking a blacklight to the image of wealth and opulence he’s embraced throughout his career—first as a real estate developer, then as a reality TV host on “The Apprentice” and later as president.

It details dozens of instances of alleged fraud, many involving claims made on annual financial statements that Trump would give to banks, business associates and financial magazines as proof of his riches as he sought loans and deals.

For example, according to the lawsuit, Trump claimed his Trump Tower apartment—a

three-story penthouse replete with gold-plated fixtures—was nearly three times its actual size and valued the property at \$327 million. No apartment in New York City has ever sold for close to that amount, James said.

Trump applied similar fuzzy math to his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Florida, the lawsuit alleged, by valuing the private club and residence as high as \$739 million—more than 10 times a more reasonable estimate of its worth. Trump’s figure is based on the idea that the property could be developed for residential use, but deed terms prohibit that.

“This investigation revealed that Donald Trump engaged in years of illegal conduct to inflate his net worth, to deceive banks and the people of the great state of New York,” James said at a news conference.

“Claiming you have money that you do not have does not amount to the art of the deal. It’s the art of the steal,” she said, referring to the title of Trump’s 1987 memoir, “The Art of the Deal.”

James said the investigation also uncovered evidence of potential criminal violations, including insurance fraud and bank fraud, but that her office was referring those findings to outside authorities for further investigation.

Trump, in a post to his Truth Social platform, decried the lawsuit as “Another Witch Hunt” and denounced James as “a fraud who campaigned

on a ‘get Trump’ platform.”

Later, in an interview with Fox News Channel’s Sean Hannity, Trump said his company’s financial disclosures warned banks not to trust the information provided.

“We have a disclaimer right on the front,” he said, that warned banks: “‘You’re at your own risk.’ ... ‘Be careful because it may not be accurate. It may be way off.’ ... ‘Get your own people. Use your own appraisers. Use your own lawyers. Don’t rely on us.’”

Trump’s lawyer, Alina Habba, said the allegations are “meritless” and the lawsuit “is neither focused on the facts nor the law—rather, it is solely focused on advancing the Attorney General’s political agenda.”

In the lawsuit, James asked the court to ban Trump and his three eldest children from ever again running a company based in the state.

She is also seeking payment of at least \$250 million, which she said was the estimated worth of benefits derived from the alleged fraud. And she wants Trump and the Trump Organization from entering into commercial real estate acquisitions for five years, among other sanctions.

James’ lawsuit comes amid a whirlwind of unprecedented legal challenges for a former president, including an FBI investigation into Trump’s handling of classified records and inquiries into his efforts to overturn the 2020 election.

Nation

Appeals court lifts hold on Mar-a-Lago records

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a stark repudiation of Donald Trump’s legal arguments, a federal appeals court on Wednesday permitted the Justice Department to resume its use of classified records seized from the former president’s Florida estate as part of its ongoing criminal investigation.

The ruling from a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit amounts to an overwhelming victory for the Justice Department, clearing the way for investigators to continue scrutinizing the documents as they consider whether to bring criminal charges over the storage of top-secret records at Mar-a-Lago after Trump left the White House. In lifting a hold on a core aspect of the department’s probe, the court re-

moved an obstacle that could have delayed the investigation by weeks.

The appeals court also pointedly noted that Trump had presented no evidence that he had declassified the sensitive records, as he maintained as recently as Wednesday, and rejected the possibility that Trump could have an “individual interest in or need for” the roughly 100 documents with classification markings that were seized by the FBI in its Aug. 8 search of the Palm Beach property.

The government had argued that its investigation had been impeded, and national security concerns swept aside, by an order from U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon that temporarily barred investigators from continuing to use

the documents in its inquiry. Cannon, a Trump appointee, had said the hold would remain in place pending a separate review by an independent arbiter she had appointed at the Trump team’s request to review the records.

The appeals panel agreed with the Justice Department’s concerns.

“It is self-evident that the public has a strong interest in ensuring that the storage of the classified records did not result in ‘exceptionally grave damage to the national security,’” they wrote. “Ascertaining that,” they added, “necessarily involves reviewing the documents, determining who had access to them and when, and deciding which (if any) sources or methods are compromised.”

Fugitive in Navy bribery case caught in Venezuela

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A Malaysian defense contractor nicknamed “Fat Leonard” who orchestrated one of the largest bribery scandals in U.S. military history has been arrested in Venezuela after fleeing before his sentencing, authorities said Wednesday.

The international manhunt for Leonard Glenn Francis ended with his arrest by Venezuelan authorities Tuesday morning at the Caracas airport as he was about to board an airplane for another country, the U.S. Marshals Service said.

The arrest came on the eve of his scheduled sentencing

in a federal court in California for a bribery scheme that lasted more than a decade and involved dozens of U.S. Navy officers.

There was no immediate word on when he might be extradited to the United States.

Francis was under home arrest in San Diego when he cut off his GPS ankle bracelet and escaped on Sept. 4. Ten U.S. agencies searched for Francis and authorities issued a \$40,000 reward for his arrest.

U.S. authorities also issued a red notice, which asks law enforcement worldwide to provisionally arrest someone with the possibility of

extradition. Malaysia and Singapore both have extradition agreements with the United States.

Francis pleaded guilty in 2015 to offering prostitution services, luxury hotels, cigars, gourmet meals and more than \$500,000 in bribes to Navy officials and others to help his Singapore-based ship servicing company, Glenn Defense Marine Asia Ltd. or GDMA. Prosecutors said the company overcharged the Navy by at least \$35 million for servicing ships, many of which were routed to ports he controlled in the Pacific.



ACROSS THE NATION

Grandfather charged after 2-year-old boy dies in hot car

ONEONTA, Ala. (AP)—An Alabama man is facing a reckless manslaughter charge after his 2-year-old grandson died when he was left in a hot vehicle for seven hours, authorities said Wednesday. Two-year-old Ian Wiesman died Tuesday after being left inside a truck for seven hours as late summer temperatures hovered around 90 degrees (32 Celsius), authorities said. William “Bill” Wiesman, 56, is being charged with reckless manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide for the death of his grandson, authorities said. Bill Wiesman told authorities he thought he had dropped his grandson at day care that morning,

and did not notice the child still strapped in a car seat as he went to work. Blount County District Attorney Pamela Casey said Wiesman returned to the truck three times that day, but told authorities he did not notice the child. The toddler, who was strapped in a forward-facing car seat behind the driver’s seat, was discovered when Wiesman drove to the day care around 3 p.m. Tuesday, authorities said.

Man convicted of shooting 2 Indiana judges in street dispute

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—A man who shot and wounded two southern Indiana judges outside an Indianapolis fast food restaurant in 2019 was convicted Wednesday on seven of eight felonies and one misdemeanor after a three-day trial. A jury convicted Brandon Kaiser of aggravated battery, multiple battery-related charges and carrying a handgun without a license. He was acquitted on one count of battery resulting in moderate bodily injury. David Margerum, Kaiser’s attorney, told WRTV-TV that Kaiser was taken into custody after the verdict. He is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 21. Clark County Circuit judges Brad Jacobs and Andrew Adams were shot during the early morning hours of May 1, 2019 in the parking lot of a downtown White Castle restaurant. Another judge, Sabrina Bell of Crawford County, was with Jacobs and Adams at the time.

World

Puerto Rico struggles to reach areas cut off by Fiona

CAGUAS, Puerto Rico (AP)—Hurricane Fiona left dozens of families stranded across Puerto Rico after

Khmer Rouge tribunal ends its work after 16 yrs., 3 judgments

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—An international court convened in Cambodia to judge the brutalities of the Khmer Rouge regime that caused the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people in the 1970s. It ends its work Thursday after spending \$337 million and 16 years to convict just three men of crimes.

In what was set to be its final session, the U.N.-assisted tribunal rejected an appeal by Khieu Samphan, the last surviving leader of the Khmer Rouge government that ruled Cambodia from 1975-79. He was convicted in 2018 of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes and given life in prison, a sentence reaffirmed Thursday.

He appeared in court Thursday in a white windbreaker, sitting in a wheelchair, wearing a face mask and listening to the proceedings on a pair

of headphones. Seven judges were in attendance.

Khieu Samphan was the group's nominal head of state but, in his trial defense, denied having real decision-making powers when the Khmer Rouge carried out a reign of terror to establish a utopian agrarian society, causing Cambodians' deaths from execution, starvation and inadequate medical care. It was ousted from power in 1979 by an invasion from neighboring communist state Vietnam.

"No matter what you decide, I will die in prison," Khieu Samphan said in his final statement of appeal to the court last year. "I will die always remembering the suffering of my Cambodian people. I will die seeing that I am alone in front of you. I am judged symbolically rather than by my actual deeds as an individual."

smashing roads and bridges, with authorities still struggling to reach people four days after the storm smacked the U.S. territory, causing historic flooding.

For now, government officials are working with religious groups, nonprofits and others braving landslides, thick mud and broken asphalt by foot to provide food, water and medicine for people in need, but they are under pressure to clear a path so vehicles

can enter isolated areas soon.

Nino Correa, commissioner for Puerto Rico's emergency management agency, estimated that at least six municipalities across the island had areas that were cut off by Fiona, which struck as a Category 1 hurricane and was up to Category 4 power Wednesday as it headed toward Bermuda.

Living in one of those areas is Manuel Veguilla, who has not been able to leave his neighborhood in the north

mountain town of Caguas since Fiona swept in on Sunday.

"We are all isolated," he said, adding that he worries about elderly neighbors including his older brother who does not have the strength for the long walk it takes to reach the closest community.

Veguilla heard that municipal officials might open a pathway Thursday, but he doubted that would happen because he said large rocks covered a

nearby bridge and the 10-foot space beneath it.

Neighbors have shared food and water dropped off by non-profit groups, and the son of an elderly woman was able to bring back basic supplies by foot Wednesday, he said.

Veguilla said that in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, a Category 4 storm that struck five years ago and resulted in nearly 3,000 deaths, he and others used picks and shovels to clear the debris. But Fiona

Putin orders partial military call-up, sparking protests

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a partial mobilization of reservists Wednesday to bolster his forces in Ukraine, a deeply unpopular move that sparked rare protests across the country and led to almost 1,200 arrests.

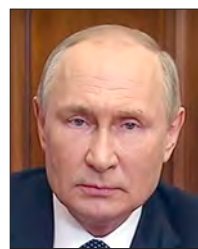
The risky order follows humiliating setbacks for Putin's troops nearly seven months after they invaded Ukraine. The first such call-up in Russia since World War II heightened tensions with Ukraine's Western backers, who derided it as an act of weakness and

desperation.

The move also sent some Russians scrambling to buy plane tickets to flee the country.

In his 14-minute nationally televised address, Putin also warned the West that he isn't bluffing about using everything at his disposal to protect Russia—an apparent reference to his nuclear arsenal. He has previously rebuked NATO countries for supplying weapons to Ukraine.

Confronted with steep bat-



Putin

tlefield losses, expanding front lines and a conflict that has raged longer than expected, the Kremlin has struggled to replenish its troops in Ukraine, reportedly even resorting to widespread recruitment in prisons.

The total number of reservists to be called up could be as high as 300,000, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said. However, Putin's decree authorizing the partial mobilization, which took ef-

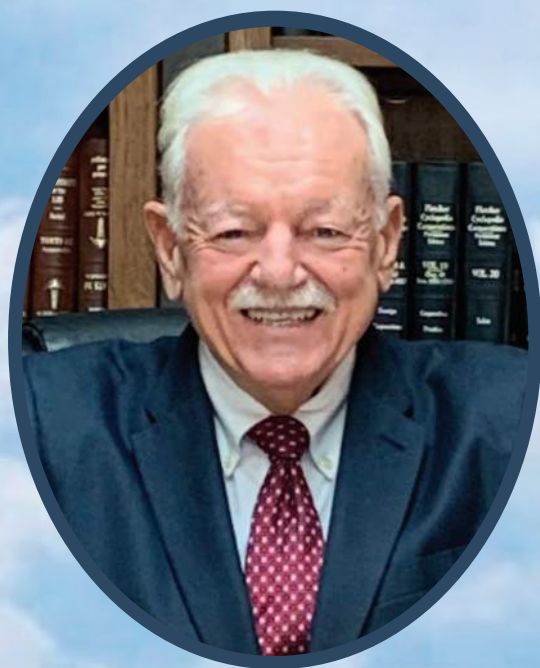
fect immediately, offered few details, raising suspicions that the draft could be broadened at any moment. Notably, one clause was kept secret.

Despite Russia's harsh laws against criticizing the military and the war, protesters outraged by the mobilization overcame their fear of arrest to stage protests in cities across the country. Nearly 1,200 Russians were arrested in anti-war demonstrations in cities including Moscow and St. Petersburg, according to the independent Russian human rights group OVD-Info.

In Celebration Of His New Life

WILLIAM M. FITZGERALD

JULY 31, 1947 – SEPTEMBER 17, 2022



Bill is survived by his wife Naoko Yamazaki Fitzgerald, their son and daughter-in-law Christopher H. and Kendra Coppey Fitzgerald, two grandsons Liam Michael Fitzgerald (8) and Aidan Mendiola Fitzgerald (5), over whom Bill doted daily, and by their daughter Genevieve Fitzgerald and her partner John Monahan.

Bill is also survived by his sister Sarah Fitzgerald Hawk and by his extended family in the CNMI and Guam including Rita ("Lily") Mendiola Celis, her husband and children, the Mendiolas of Luta, Noriyasu Horiguchi of Luta and the legion of family, friends and colleagues around the world whom Bill engaged and inspired.

Bill's memory will forever live in the hearts and minds of all that had the great fortune to meet him.

Funeral mass will be held at noon on September 26, 2022 at St. Vincent de Paul in Bill's childhood neighborhood of Germantown in Philadelphia, PA
In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the charity www.finalfarewell.org

Arigato gozaimasu – Si Yu'us Ma'ase' – Salamat pa

FLY EAGLES FLY



36th Memorial Commemoration

of the

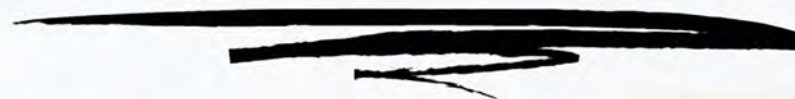
13 FISHERMEN

who were lost at Sea

4PM - Friday, Sept 23, 2022

13 Fishermen Monument

Garapan, Saipan



In Loving Memory

Isidro Rogopes Romolor
Jose Taisakan Igisaiar
Silvestre Roligat Selepeo
Joaquin Lisua Moteisou
Benusto Rabauliman Olopai
Enrique Lisua Moteisou

Guillermo Saures
Benusto Malus Lisua
Joseph Litulumar Kaipat
Pedro Lairope Mettao
Martin Lairope Saures
Joseph Teregeyo Lisua
Jovencio Falguera

Life & Style

Brad Pitt, Nick Cave make surprise art debut in Finland

HELSINKI (AP)—Hollywood's Brad Pitt and Australian musician Nick Cave have debuted as artists in an exhibition in Finland that displays sculptures and ceramics created by the movie star and the singer-songwriter.

The Sara Hilden Art Museum, located in the southern Finnish city of Tampere, was initially scheduled to exhibit solely the wide variety of works by British artist Thomas Houseago—known for his sculptures—but he reportedly persuaded the museum include works by his friends Pitt and Cave.

"Cave and Pitt are already renowned in their respective fields of music and cinema, but this is the first time ever they have exhibited their artwork—pieces which were created during the course of an ongoing dialogue with Houseago," the Finnish museum said.

Pitt and Cave traveled to Tampere, a university city known for its vibrant culture and music scene, for a pre-



In this photo provided by Sara Hilden Art Museum, British artist Thomas Houseago, centre, poses with US actor Brad Pitt, centre right and Australian musician Nick Cave, prior to the opening of their joint exhibition, in Tampere, Finland, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022.

opening event on Saturday. Finnish media reported that both men acknowledged being excited and nervous about presenting their art in public for the first time.

Among the nine works on show by the 58-year-old Pitt is a house-shaped structure molded in clear silicon and shot with bullets and a plaster panel

depicting a shooting scene. Pitt reportedly began making ceramic art following his divorce from Angelina Jolie in 2017.

Pitt told the Finnish public broadcaster YLE that his work was about "self-reflection."

"It's about, you know, where have I gotten it wrong in my relationships? Where have I misstepped? Where I am com-

pliment?" he said.

"It was borne out of ownership of really what I call a radical inventory of self, getting really, brutally honest with me and ... taking account of those I may have hurt and moments I've just gotten wrong," the American Oscar-winning actor and film producer told YLE.

Cave, known for his dark

baritone voice as the front man for his band Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, produced a series of ceramic figurines that depict the life of the devil. He designed, painted and glazed the 17 figures between 2020 and this year.

"I wanted to do a devil because it was red. And I like the color of red glaze," Cave told

YLE. "Eventually I decided to make the life story of the devil itself."

"For me, personally, it speaks into something about the idea of forgiveness or the need to be forgiven. It's a very personal work for me."

The exhibition opened Sunday and runs through Jan. 15, 2023.

At least 250,000 people lined up to see queen's coffin

LONDON (AP)—At least 250,000 people joined the huge line to see Queen Elizabeth II's coffin lying in state for four days in London's Westminster Hall at Parliament, an official said Tuesday.

The figure was released a day after Britain ended 10 days of national mourning for the late monarch, who died on Sept. 8 in Scotland at age 96 after 70 years on the throne. On Monday, hundreds of world leaders and dignitaries attended her state funeral at Westminster Abbey, and huge crowds thronged the streets of London and Wind-

sor to witness history and bid a final farewell to their queen before she was laid to rest in Windsor.

Culture Secretary Michelle Donelan said officials were still "crunching the numbers," but estimated that about a quarter-million people joined the longest queue most have ever seen for a chance to file past the queen's coffin from Sept. 14 until shortly before her state funeral on Monday.

Many in the queue waited for up to 13 hours, braving the autumnal chill and spending entire nights shuffling for miles along the River Thames

to pay their respects. The London Ambulance Service said staff and volunteers cared for around 2,000 people who lined up, and took 240 in for hospital treatment.

The queen was interred late Monday alongside her late husband Prince Philip and her parents in Windsor Castle's St. George's Chapel, a gothic church steeped in royal history for centuries. Elizabeth's parents, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, known as the Queen Mother in later years, were interred there, as were the ashes of Elizabeth's sister Princess Margaret.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Golden Globes to return to NBC in January after year off-air

NEW YORK (AP)—After a year spent off-air, the Golden Globe Awards are returning to NBC in January, as the embattled Hollywood Foreign Press Association seeks a primetime comeback after more than a year of turmoil. NBC, the Hollywood Press Association and Dick Clark Productions on Tuesday made the Globes' return official. The 80th Golden Globes will be held January 10, airing both

on NBC and Peacock. For the past year and half, Hollywood has effectively boycotted the Globes, for years one of the most-watched award shows after the Academy Awards. But after the Los Angeles Times reported ahead of the 2021 broadcast that the HFPA's 87 members of non-American journalists included no Black members, studios, publicists and stars said they would cease participating in the Globes. Tom Cruise returned his three Golden Globe awards.

Jimmy Kimmel signs 3-year extension for ABC late-night show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jimmy Kimmel celebrated his 20th anniversary as ABC's late-night host early, signing a three-year contract extension for "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" "After two decades at ABC, I am now looking forward to three years of what they call 'quiet quitting,'" Kimmel quipped in a statement Tuesday. His show debuted in January 2003, and the new deal means he

will remain with it into the 2025-26 season—giving him a generous window to make comedic hay out of politicians, who are favorite monologue targets, and the 2024 presidential election. Among network late-night hosts, Kimmel, CBS' Stephen Colbert and James Corden and NBC's Seth Meyers wade regularly into political humor, with Kimmel amping up the focus during the Donald Trump years inside and outside of the White House.

Next Miss Universe pageant to be broadcast from New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—New Orleans will be the site of the 71st Miss Universe contest, bringing together nearly 90 women contestants from around the world in January, the Miss Universe Organization said. "The City of New Orleans and the Miss Universe Organization share common values of celebrating inclusion, culture and the empowerment of women," New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell

said Monday. She noted in a news release that former contestants and winners have gone on to become surgeons, diplomats, politicians and business leaders, adding "they all champion social causes that are important to them." The competition will be aired on Jan. 14, 2023—a Saturday—at the city's convention center, according to the statement. The live broadcast will culminate with the 70th Miss Universe—Bollywood actress Harnaaz Sandhu of India—crowning the winner.

Wife can't abide husband's other love: his weed

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for seven years, and I'm tired of having the same fight every day. He smokes marijuana, and I hate it. It has been a constant battle for years. We tried therapy, which helped for a while, but he goes back to smoking behind my back. We tried to reach a compromise that he smoke only after a certain time of day, but it still leads to fights.

He shuts me out when he's doing drugs and says I don't care about his happiness because it's something he enjoys, and I am taking it away. I love him so much, but I hate drugs and don't like who he becomes when he's smoking.

I want to have a baby, but I am uncomfortable with drugs being in the house. I feel like I can't trust him to be alone with a baby when he's high. I don't want to leave him, but I can't take it anymore. Having the same fight every day is exhausting, and it's had a really negative impact on our marriage. I want him to choose me over this, but if I give him an ultimatum, he'll hate me. What do I do?

ANTI-DRUG IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ANTI-DRUG: Give your husband that ultimatum and pack your bags. If you prefer the father of your child not have a marijuana habit and he cannot quit, then, as much as you may love him, this person isn't the

One for you. Sorry.

♦♦♦♦

DEAR ABBY: I've read your column for years, frequently taking advice you provide to others and applying it to my circumstances. I have developed a mutual bond with a woman who is 30—28 years younger than myself. She's a waitress at a diner I frequent. I've seen her children grow over the past six or seven years. We have had many meaningful conversations and shared our highs and lows. She's naturally friendly.

Three or four years ago, she began sharing casual side hugs when I arrived. I never ask for them. Over the last year, these hugs have become more intimate, not in a sexual way—just a deeper bond of friendship. We occasionally IM when she's off work, but I don't see her socially.

Lately she has been teasing that she'll be my next ex. I reciprocate the flirting and teasing. I believe there is a mutual attraction. If not for the age difference, which I'm OK with, or the fear of causing issues with our friendship, I'd ask her out. Societal taboos weigh heavily on my mind, and I am pragmatic. Should I or shouldn't I? Or am I reading too much into our friendship?

UNSURE IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR UNSURE: Not having witnessed the chemistry

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



between the two of you, I couldn't say. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained. The next time you see her, after one of those "more intimate" hugs, tell her teasingly that you have been thinking about her comment that she'll be your next ex and ask if she'd like to have dinner with you sometime. Her response will tell you if you have been reading too much into the friendship.

♦♦♦♦

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



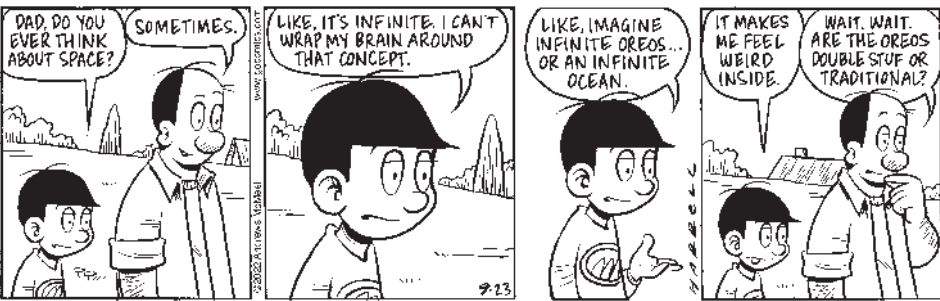
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



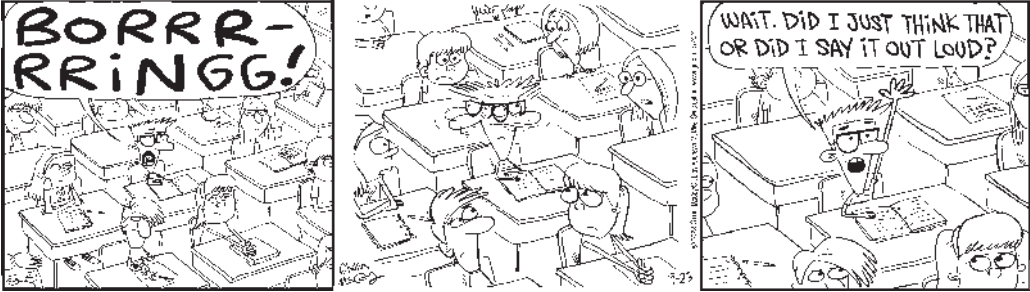
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

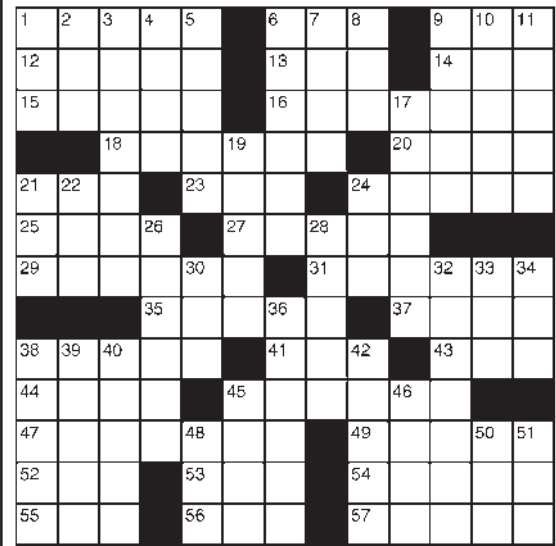
1 Surrenders
6 Tennis match division
9 Cover
12 Fold
13 Sch. founded by Jefferson
14 Blackbird
15 Shadow
16 Utter disaster
18 Author Lurie
20 Bump into
21 Soup cooker
23 Cowboys quarter-back Prescott
24 Has an intense craving
25 Actor Guinness
27 Tooth-paste holders
29 Strange thing
31 Deceived
35 Welsh pooch
37 Bargain

DOWN

1 PC's brain
2 Shade tree
3 Battled verbally
4 — Grey tea
5 Composed
6 Number puzzle
7 Divisible by two
8 Bar bill
9 Shoe fasteners
10 Cove
11 Losing ventures?
17 Tickled
19 Nymph pursuer
21 Kung — chicken
22 Vintage
24 Floral garland
26 Roman orator
28 Russian pan-cakes
30 Playpen item
32 Deducted
33 — kwon do
34 Flamenco cheer
36 Cracker type
38 Actors Robert and Alan
39 Borscht base
40 Innocents
42 Play for time
45 Stallion's mate
46 Operatic solo
48 Rule, for short
50 Chemical suffix
51 Curved letter

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shannon Chan-Kent, 34; Anthony Mackie, 44; Jason Alexander, 63; Bruce Springsteen, 73.

Happy Birthday: Take the path that makes you happy. Use your imagination, and you'll find a way to improve your surroundings. Setting up a designated space to work on something that interests you is encouraged. Always doing for others but never for yourself will cause frustration and dissatisfaction. Make changes that allow you the freedom to follow your heart. Romance is on the rise. Your numbers are 2, 15, 24, 26, 34, 41, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Gauge your every move. You will fall behind if you miscalculate what you can handle mentally, physically or financially. Don't ignore how much preparation is necessary to reach your destination. Go above and beyond the call of duty.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make plans with someone who puts a smile on your face and offers mental stimulation. Your discussions will open a window of opportunity to help you discover what you want to do next. Mix business with pleasure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Refuse to get into an emotional situation with someone who tends to embellish or overreact. Stick to the truth and pay attention to detail, and you will ward off an argument that will stand between you and what you want to pursue. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Go above and beyond, and give whatever you do a twist that makes you stand out. Getting

others to notice what you offer will lead to opportunities to branch out in areas of interest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Know your audience and gear the topic of conversation toward what interests the masses. Preparation will ensure you address concerns that make a difference to you and those you are trying to encourage to pitch in and help. Mix business with pleasure.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's up to you to change. Don't wait for someone to do the work for you. Change begins with you; the motion to dig in and make a difference will pay off if you follow through by acting out your thoughts.

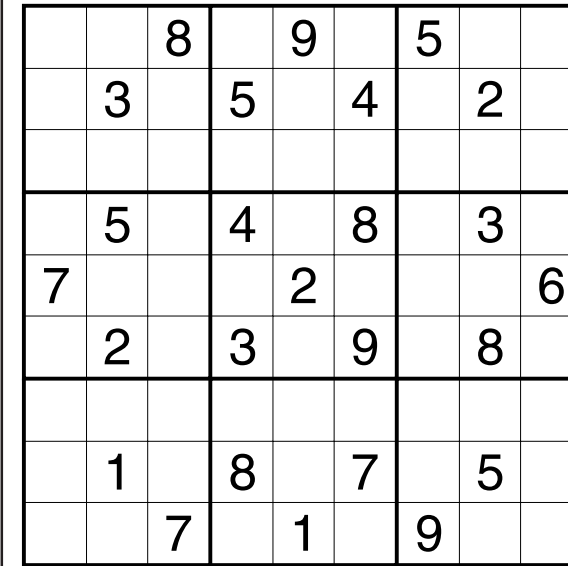
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stick close to home. Don't feel the need to share your thoughts and feelings. Arguing will not help you solve issues. Focus on making your space functional, and you'll find it easier to be productive. Leave nothing to chance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your heart and soul into getting things done to your specifications. Share information with people with similar plans, and you'll save time and money when putting your ideas to the test. Compromise will lead to positive change in a meaningful relationship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be careful what you wish for and who you discuss private matters with, and you'll avoid confusion. Don't trust anyone to do things your way or to pass along valid information. Double-check everything that matters to you before proceeding.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 9/23
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EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Participate in activities you enjoy, and spend time with loved ones. How you conduct business and pleasure will make a difference in how others view you. Friendly banter and a generous spirit will lead to better relationships, trust and favorable outcomes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put your energy where it will warrant a positive outcome, and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results. An opportunity due to your hard work and dedication will help you make a name for yourself among your peers.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for foreseeable problems before you commit. Monitor what others do and how they feel before you share your beliefs. Having an idea of what you want and what will work for you will help eliminate anyone trying to confuse or sway you.

Birthday Baby: You are demonstrative, resourceful and curious. You are receptive and friendly.

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET
HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.
DEEP BREATH! Solution: 8 letters



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Judge doubles twice, stays at 60 homers as Yanks rout Bucs



NEW YORK

(AP)—Aaron Judge disappointed fans by staying stuck at 60 homers but doubled twice and scored on Oswaldo Cabrera's first-inning grand slam that started the New York Yankees to a 14-2 rout of the Pittsburgh Pirates on Wednesday night.

Judge doubled on the first pitch to him in the first and fifth innings. Given another time up during an eight-run eighth inning, Judge walked on four pitches from rookie Eric Stout as the sellout crowd of 46,175 booed loudly.

Cabrera and Gleyber Torres had five RBIs each. Torres homered twice in the eighth inning, raising his season total to 23.

Luis Severino (6-3) returned from a strained right lat muscle that had sidelined him since July 13 and allowed one run and two hits in five innings with six strikeouts.

Pirates rookie Roansy Contreras (5-5) struck out a career-high 10, allowing six runs and six hits in 4 2/3 innings.

Padres 1, Cardinals 0

In San Diego, Blake Snell held St. Louis hitless until Albert Pujols beat the shift for a single with two outs in the seventh inning and San Diego beat NL Central-leading St. Louis.

Snell (8-9) allowed two hits in seven innings on 117 pitches and struck out 13 to tie his career high. The left-hander's brilliant effort carried the Padres to their fifth straight win and extended the rotation's scoreless streak to 27 2/3 innings.

The Padres have shut out the Cardinals in the first two games of the three-game series, keeping Pujols at 698 career homers. San Diego stayed 1 1/2 games ahead of Philadelphia for the NL's second wild-card spot.

Brewers 6, Mets 0

In Milwaukee, pinch-hitter Mike Brosseau greeted Drew Smith with a grand slam in the pitcher's return from two months on the injured list and Milwaukee beat NL East-leading New York.

Willy Adames hit a go-ahead home run in the sixth against Taijuan Walker, his fifth homer in 10 games and 31st this season for the Brewers, who are chasing Philadelphia for the third and final NL wild-card berth.

The Mets maintained a one-game division lead over Atlanta. Mark Canha was hit by pitches twice and Luis Guilmoré once, giving New York a big league record 106 hit batters this season.

Walker (12-5) had allowed only four runners before Adames homered leading off the sixth.

Guardians 8, White Sox 2

In Cleveland, rookie Steven Kwan homered among his three hits and Triston McKenzie struck out 13 as Cleveland moved closer to its first AL Central title since 2018.

Kwan had hits in each of his first three at-bats, capped by his fifth homer of the season on the first pitch of the fourth inning from Chicago's Lance Lynn (7-6).

The Guardians have won seven of eight.

Nationals 3, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Joey Meneses hit a go-ahead, two-run homer off Jesse Chavez in the seventh inning, and Washington stopped Atlanta's five-game winning streak.

Ronald Acuña Jr. drove in an early run and scored another for playoff-bound Atlanta, which remained one game behind the New York Mets in the NL East.

Meneses put Washington up 3-2 with his 10th homer, a 420-foot drive to left for the 30-year-

old rookie. Chavez (0-2) worked two-thirds of an inning.

Phillies 4, Blue Jays 3, 10 innings

In Philadelphia, Matt Vierling had five hits, including the game-winning RBI single in the 10th inning, to rally Philadelphia past Toronto.

J.T. Realmuto homered for Philadelphia, which snapped a five-game losing streak to stay 2 1/2 games ahead of Milwaukee for the final NL wild-card spot.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit a three-run homer for the Blue Jays, who lead the AL wild-card standings.

Diamondbacks 6, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Madison Bumgarner tossed six innings of one-hit ball, giving the former World Series MVP his first win in nearly two months, and Arizona beat Los Angeles.

Bumgarner (7-15) beat the Dodgers for the first time as a Diamondback and the first time since Sept. 23, 2017, when he was with San Francisco.

The left-hander retired the first nine batters and 13 of the first 14 he faced in his 40th career start against the Dodgers. He gave up one run, struck out five and walked one in his first victory since July 23 against Washington.

Bumgarner allowed just two baserunners.

Corbin Carroll doubled in three runs and Christian Walker drove in two more for Arizona, which also led 5-1 on Monday only to have the Dodgers rally in the eighth and win 6-5.

Orioles 8, Tigers 1

In Baltimore, Jordan Lyles threw the second complete game of his career, Kyle Stowers homered and drove in three runs, and Baltimore avoided its first-ever season sweep by Detroit.

The Orioles snapped a nine-game losing streak to the Tigers dating to last season. Baltimore moved within four games of Seattle for the AL's third and final wild card.

Lyles (11-11) allowed one run on three hits with six strikeouts and no walks, throwing 94 pitches. His previous complete game occurred on Sept. 30, 2012, for Houston against Milwaukee.

Matt Manning (2-3) allowed five runs, three earned, with four strikeouts and a career-tying-high five walks over 5 1/3 innings.

Astros 5, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Kyle Tucker hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the eighth inning, Lance McCullers Jr. pitched seven effective innings and AL West champion Houston completed a three-game sweep of Tampa Bay.

McCullers (4-1) gave up two runs, six hits, two walks and had eight strikeouts.

Tucker drilled his 29th homer into the right-center field stands off Brooks Raley (1-2).

Ryan Pressly worked the ninth for his 30th save in 34 chances.

Houston second baseman Jose Altuve was hit on the left elbow by Corey Kluber's pitch in the fifth and left one inning later with elbow discomfort.

Athletics 2, Mariners 1

In Oakland, Calif., Luis Torrens homered for one of four hits by stumbling Seattle, which was shut down again by last-place Oakland.

The Mariners are in the third and final AL wild-card position, four games in front of Baltimore.

Pinch-hitter Vimal Machin hit an RBI double in the seventh and Tony Kemp added a run-scoring single later that inning against Erik Swanson (2-1).

James Kaprielian (4-9) allowed two hits and struck out six with one walk over seven scoreless innings to outduel left-hander Robbie Ray.

Domingo Acevedo finished for his fourth save.

Giants 6, Rockies 1

In Denver, Logan Webb didn't allow a hit until one out in the sixth inning and was then immediately pulled by manager Gabe Kapler after 66 pitches in San Francisco's win over Colorado.

Alex Young, Cole Waites and Scott Alexander held the Rockies to two hits before Elehuris Montero hit a ninth-inning homer off Thomas Szapucki in the Giants' third straight win.

Webb (14-9) showed no signs of fatigue in retiring his first 11 batters. Webb then hit C.J. Cron with a 1-0 fastball. Webb didn't allow another runner until Sean Bouchard, Colorado's No. 9 batter, hit a liner up the middle.

German Márquez (8-12) allowed four runs, three earned, in five innings as Colorado lost its third straight.

Reds 5, Red Sox 1

In Cincinnati, Jonathan India and Kyle Farmer each drove in two runs, Donovan Solano added a solo homer and Cincinnati beat Boston at home for the first time since June 13, 2008.

India drove in the tiebreaking run in Cincinnati's three-run fifth. The Reds had lost eight straight at home to Boston in their infrequent interleague meetings.

Chase Anderson (2-3) gave up three hits and one run with no walks in five innings, earning his second straight win in his fifth start of the season.

Connor Seabold (0-3) threw four wild pitches and hit a batter in five innings while allowing six hits and four runs.

Royals 5, Twins 2

In Kansas City, Mo., MJ Me-

lendez homered for the second straight day and Kansas City beat fast-fading Minnesota.

Daniel Lynch allowed two runs on four hits over four shaky innings before giving way to the Kansas City bullpen. Anthony Misiewicz (1-1) and three other relievers got the ball to Scott Barlow, who pitched around an error in the ninth for his second save in as many nights and 23rd on the year.

Bailey Ober (1-3) allowed three runs on seven hits and a walk over five innings for the Twins, who have lost six of seven.

Rangers 7, Angels 2

In Arlington, Texas, rookie Josh Smith homered over the fence for the first time and Texas beat Los Angeles.

Smith's only other round-tripper was inside the park at Globe Life Field against Oakland in July.

Shohei Ohtani and Taylor Ward extended their hitting streaks to seven games in the first when Ohtani singled and Ward followed with his 19th home run for a 2-0 Angels lead.

Dane Dunning (4-8) didn't allow another run and struck out eight in five innings.

Adolis García had a sacrifice fly in the first and tiebreaking RBI double in the third off Angels starter Tucker Davidson (2-7).

Cubs 4, Marlins 3

In Miami, Ian Happ hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the eighth inning and Chicago rallied to beat Miami.

Patrick Wisdom hit his 23rd homer for the Cubs, who had only four hits.

Down 3-1, the Cubs scored three in the eighth without a hit against Marlins relievers Steven Okert (5-5) and Dylan Floro.

Keegan Thompson (10-5) pitched three scoreless innings of relief.

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Suspended Sarver says he's decided to sell Suns, Mercury

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Robert Sarver says he has started the process of selling the Phoenix Suns and Phoenix Mercury, a move that came barely a week after he was suspended by the NBA over workplace misconduct that included racist speech and hostile behavior toward employees.

The decision was quickly applauded by many — among them, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, the National Basketball Players Association and even Sarver's partners in the ownership group that operates the Suns and Mercury.

Sarver made the announcement Wednesday, saying selling "is the best course of action," although he initially hoped he would be able to keep control of the franchises — pointing to his record that, he claims, paints a dramatically different picture of who he is and what he stands for.

"But in our current unforgiving climate, it has become painfully clear that that is no longer possible — that whatever good I have done, or could still do, is outweighed by things I have said in the past," Sarver wrote in a statement. "For those reasons, I am beginning the process of seeking buyers for the Suns and Mercury."

Silver said he "fully" supports Sarver's decision.

"This is the right next step for the organization and community," Silver said.

Sarver bought the teams in July 2004 for about \$400 million — then a record price for an NBA franchise. He is not

the lone owner of the Suns and Mercury, but the primary one. Suns Legacy Partners LLC, the ownership group, said its work to create a "culture of respect and integrity" would continue.

"As we've shared with our employees, we acknowledge the courage of the people who came forward in this process to tell their stories and apologize to those hurt," the partners said.

Assuming no other team is sold in the interim, it would be the first sale in the NBA since a group led by Qualtrics co-founder Ryan Smith bought the Utah Jazz in 2021 for about \$1.7 billion.

It's not known if Sarver has established an asking price. Forbes recently estimated the value of the Suns at \$1.8 billion. Any new owners would have to be vetted by the NBA, which is standard procedure.

An independent report that was commissioned by the NBA last November — following an ESPN report into Sarver's workplace conduct — took about 10 months to complete. That probe found Sarver "repeated or purported to repeat the N-word on at least five occasions spanning his tenure with the Suns," though added that the investigation "makes no finding that Sarver used this racially insensitive language with the intent to demean or denigrate."

The study also concluded that Sarver used demeaning language toward female employees, including telling a pregnant employee that she would not be able to do her job after becoming a mother; making off-color comments



Phoenix Suns owner Robert Sarver gestures to Indiana Pacers' Danny Granger after Granger missed a shot during the second half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, March 6, 2010 in Phoenix.

and jokes about sex and anatomy; and yelling and cursing at employees in ways that would be considered bullying "under workplace standards."

Once that report was completed, Silver suspended Sarver for one year and fined him \$10 million — the maximum allowed by league rule.

"Words that I deeply regret now overshadow nearly two decades of building organizations that brought people together — and strengthened the

Phoenix area — through the unifying power of professional men's and women's basketball," Sarver wrote. "As a man of faith, I believe in atonement and the path to forgiveness. I expected that the commissioner's one-year suspension would provide the time for me to focus, make amends and remove my personal controversy from the teams that I and so many fans love."

Barely a week later, Sarver evidently realized that would

not be possible.

His decision comes after a chorus of voices — from players such as Suns guard Chris Paul and Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James, to longtime team sponsors like PayPal, and even the National Basketball Players Association — said the one-year suspension wasn't enough.

James weighed in again Wednesday, shortly after Sarver's statement went public: "I'm so proud to be a part of a league committed to progress!" he tweeted.

Added retired NBA player Etan Thomas, also in a tweet: "Sarver is cashing out so this is not really a punishment for him but definitely glad he will be gone."

NBPA President CJ McCollum said the union thanks Sarver "for making a swift decision that was in the best interest of our sports community."

Suns vice chairman Jahm Najafi called last week for Sarver to resign, saying there should be "zero tolerance" for lewd, misogynistic and racist conduct in any workplace. Najafi, in that same statement, also said he did not have designs on becoming the team's primary owner.

"I do not want to be a distraction to these two teams and the fine people who work so hard to bring the joy and excitement of basketball to fans around the world," Sarver wrote. "I want what's best for these two organizations, the players, the employees, the fans, the community, my fellow owners, the NBA and the WNBA. This is the best course of action for everyone."

Sarver, through his attorney, argued to the NBA during the investigative process that his record as an owner shows a "longstanding commitment to social and racial justice" and that it shows he's had a "commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion." Among the examples Sarver cited was what he described as a league-best rate of 55% employment of minorities within the Suns' front office and how more than half of the team's coaches and general managers in his tenure — including current coach Monty Williams and current GM James Jones — are Black.

GECKOS

From Page 24

ard Delemarle, Sean Park, and Akeen Edvalson.

HMS-1 12, TMS-2 1

In a battle between the north and the south, Hopwood Middle School 1 beat Tanapag Middle School to a pulp, 12-1.

The Hilitais' Branson Santos and Nomulong Pino took turns attacking the net and scoring goals for their team.

In the first five minutes, Santos rushed through the

goalie to score the first goal and was then immediately followed by Pino who scored three times in a row for an early lead of 4-0 in the first half of the game.

Santos found the ball right under his feet again and wasted no time to score and was followed by Pino once again who added two more for a big lead of 7-0.

The Tatagas still haven't found their footing and were unable to get past the Hilitais' defense and goalie. When it seemed like it would be a huge zero on the score-

board for the final score, Jazzroy Villagomez finally broke through the phalanx of Hilitais defenders to score the lone goal for the Tatagas.

It was all for naught as TMS had no more goals in them to catch up. HMS 1 scored four more goals in the last minutes of the game, for the final score of 12-1.

HMS 1 lineup includes Majerson Assito, Emerson Brillo, Damien Concepcion, Kian Estolas, Bennet Haro, Benneton Haro, Jean Merjilla, Charles Molina, Mayten Pino, Nomulong

Pino, John Peter Quidato, Alvin Saimon, and Branson Santos.

With this win, HMS 1 is at 1-0 and TMS 2 is at 0-1. Both are from Group B.

In Group A, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School is at 1-0, HMS 2 is at 0-1, Saipan Community School and TMS 1 have yet to play.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association coordinates the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League along with the Public School System Athletic Program.

FATHER

From Page 24

the Mini ATV Class champion, following in his father's footsteps.

"I'm dedicating this win to my dad and grandpa for always pushing me to be better and never letting me give up," she said.

Kassidy got interested in the sport after seeing his dad practice and race.

"It sparked my interest into

trying," said the 13-year-old student from Saipan International School.

As for her future plans, Kassidy looks to continue to rock the first place podium when the awards banquet rolls round next year.

"I hope to get another first place plate and many more after that," she said.

Other winners of the divisions were Keoni Rosario of the Pee wee ATV Class, Bentley Koshiro of Pee wee I Class, and Joe Santos of the Novice Class.

GANACIAS

From Page 24

Guam senior golfers during the HANMI golf tourney, had an inkling that he'd eventually come out on top after shooting a gross score of 76 that included a couple of birdies in holes No. 9 and the 18.

"I basically played my game

and stayed away from double [bogeys]. That's a good thing. Shot a couple of birdies and had some very good putts and just enjoyed the day," he said.

The longtime Fil-Taga Golfers Association member also thanked Mother Nature for postponing the rain showers until the end of the 18-hole tourney.

"It started nice but toward

the end on the last two holes it started to drizzle but we got out there in time from the heavy rain. It worked out very well and at the same time we were all getting hungry and we got some good food after that," said Ganacias.

The avid biker added that the key in winning peoria or even double peoria golf com-

petitions is just to play your game and not be caught up with what holes you need to be good at.

"I've done the peoria format before and I think if you could stay away from bad holes like doubles or triples and maintain pars and maybe a couple of birdies and hopefully you'd hit the right holes [you'd be fine]. It's double

peoria so you really don't know so just basically give yourself a chance and stay away from the big numbers," he said.

On how he intends to spend his winnings, Ganacias said "I'll share it with somebody."

Ganacias also thanked the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands

and organizers of the golf tournament for a perfectly run 20th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament.

"They did a fantastic job, very, very professional and the course was in a very, very fine shape. It was an awesome tournament and I'm looking forward to next year's event."

IT&E renews support for interscholastic basketball program



IT&E is keeping its commitment to the interscholastic basketball program after agreeing anew to be the title sponsor of the 2022-2023 season of the interscholastic league co-organized by the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation and the CNMI Public School System.

IT&E CNMI general manager Rose Soledad, executive director for Customer Operations Rob Harrell, and Network Operations and Engineering director Velma Palacios met with NMIBF president James Lee last Wednesday to formalize the partnership that would support the program, which serves students and teachers of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

"IT&E is once again supporting the interscholastic basketball program here in the CNMI, as we continue to enjoy and work with partners that give back to our children and to our public and public school students—to get these kids back to being athletic and healthy and socializing as we continue to battle through the pandemic,"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, NMI Basketball Federation president James Lee, Network Operations and Engineering director Velma Palacios, IT&E CNMI general manager Rose Soledad, and executive director for Customer Operations Rob Harrell pose for a group photo at the IT&E office in Susupe last Wednesday after formalizing their partnership that would support this season's IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League.

Harrell said. "Our support goes not only to school level, but also to adult sports events throughout the islands for us to follow up and continue promoting Get Fit, CNMI-type of programs."

The 2022-2023 IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League kicked off last Sept. 14 via the girls middle school competition, which features nine teams. Last year's runner-up Francisco M. Sablan Middle School swept its two assignments in the opening week for a share of the early lead in the team standings with Tanapag Middle School. Other schools competing for the girls middle school division are defending champion Grace Christian Academy, Agape Christian School, Dandan Middle school,

Chacha Oceanview, Saipan International School, and Hopwood Middle School 1 and 2.

Next month, the NMIBF is looking at starting the co-ed elementary division and so far, 20 teams have already expressed interest in competing, while there will also be games in the boys middle school and the girls and boys high school categories.

Last year, despite the delay of matches and changes in schedule due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the inaugural season of the IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League brought together 600 students and 80 coaches across the three islands and featured about 40 teams from more than 30 schools. (PR)

Recovery Month v-ball fun day held



LEIGH GASES

Participants are seen playing volleyball during the Recovery Month Volleyball Fun Day held in celebration of National Recovery Month in Micro Beach last Saturday.

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

The recovery committee composed of Haggan/Woong United for Recovery, H.O.P.E Recovery Center, Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation Program, Community Guidance Center, Men and Women of Destiny, and the Drug Court held a Recovery Month Volleyball Fun Day last Saturday at Micro Beach despite the rain.

Team Chuukese and Cream bested the rest of the teams which included teams W.O.D, Saar-up, Boys Man Mezzing, Ace Holes, and Last Minute.

According to Djaymarch Ong, peer lead coordinator for Haggan/Woong United for Recovery, it was a sober event with no alcohol, just food and nonalcoholic beverages. The fun day lasted from 12noon to 7pm, with lots of games in between.

For the whole month of September, which is proclaimed "Recovery Month," a series of events were planned. A Recovery Walkathon happened last Sept. 9, a Recovery Month Hike Adventure from the H.O.P.E. Recovery Center to Suicide Cliff last Sept. 10, a movie night, and a National Addiction Professionals Day.

Upcoming events include a day of prayer recovery mass on Sept. 25, a beach cleanup at 13 Fishermen to Carolinian Utt on Sept. 26, a Roadside Wave at the Carolinian Utt, and a Fam-

ily Fun Fair at the roundhouse in Garapan, both of which are on Sept. 30, and the community is invited to attend.

"Let's continue to empower the recovery community by providing guidance and support to those seeking lifelong recovery, and by combating stigma, and showing support to our service providers and champions in our island community so that we can all continue to work towards building a healthier and safer CNMI," said Ong.

"During National Recovery Month, we celebrate the individuals in our island community who have achieved recovery and reaffirm our commitment to helping more people overcome substance use disorders and reach recovery. We also support those who are still struggling to achieve recovery and dedicate ourselves to overcoming these challenges together," he added.

This year's National Recovery Month, which was proclaimed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres earlier this month, has adopted the theme "Recovery is for Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community." It reminds people in recovery and those who support them, that recovery belongs to all.

Haggan/Woong United for Recovery is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a community of support for those recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

Mallards outpace Turtles in ES soccer

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT



Garapan Elementary School 1 overtook Oleai Elementary School, 9-2, in Group B of the elementary school game of the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League last Monday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

The Mallards gathered in a flock around the Turtles to swamp them and control the ball majority of the game. Four minutes into the first half, Kanoa Owens maneuvered through a bale of fast moving Turtle defenders to claim the first goal for GES 1.

Rocky Reyes, Casmiro Cosmes, Kalialani Cavalear, and Angel Kalayag all followed Owens to score a goal each and to gain GES the early 5-0 lead.

Right after, however, DK Pino of OES managed to navigate the ball through the flock of defenders to put the Turtles on the scoreboard. Teammate Jeni Pino followed suit to score their second and final goal.

The Mallards continued their onslaught in the second half, scoring more goals, and adding to their lead over the Turtles. Owens and Cosmes scored two more goals each, and Reyes scored one more, for the final score of 9-2.

GES 1 remains undefeated with three wins. OES is at the opposite end with three losses.

WSR-1 9, MCS-2, 1

William S. Reyes Elementary School defeated Mount Carmel School, 9-1 in their Group A bout.

Almost the whole lineup of the Kingfishers took a shot at the goal, with Herman Vilagomez and Landin Reyes,

scoring three each.

The Kingfishers aimed high and flew high, just like their motto.

Only Franko Tudela of MCS managed to score a goal in the ninth minute of the first half.

Javiun Sablan Jr. had two goals and Xavier Camacho had one for the Kingfishers.

WSR-1 is at 2-1 and MCS 2 so far has no wins against three losses.

MCS-1 1, GES-2 0

In a game with almost no goals, Mount Carmel School 1 managed to put one goal against Garapan Elementary School 2 in the first half, which was enough to secure the win.

The only goal of the game was made by Talina Aguon-McClure.

The Knights and Mallards are both 1-2 in the Group A standings.

KES-1 4, GCA 1

Koblerville Elementary School 1 beat Grace Christian Academy, 4-1.

The Umangs' Napu Pangelinan continued to assert his dominance on the field as he scored three of the team's four goals in the first half of the game. Iku Benavente scored one goal.

The only goal for the Eagles was made by Sarang Lee.

KES-1 is undefeated with three wins and GCA is at 2-1 in the Group A standings.

SVES-1 8, SCS 3

San Vicente Elementary School

attackers successfully navigated their way through Saipan Community School's defenders to win 8-3.

Even as the Guardians drew first blood in the first four minutes of the game with a goal made by Amethyst Winkfield, SCS could only conjure up two more goals after that.

The Canaries were not dissuaded by the Guardians' tactics on the field as they put up five goals in the first half and three goals in the second half.

Dominic Canete-Ealy and Joaquin Torres scored three goals each for the Canaries while Haley Robert put up two.

SVES is undefeated with three wins, while SCS has yet to win with three losses in Group B.

SIS 3, GTC-1 3

The last game of the day ended in a draw, with the Geckos and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School both at three goals each.

Many attempts were made to surpass the other, but to no avail as the game clock wound down to its final seconds.

The Geckos' Zhen Wang scored two goals and Windsor Gross scored one. For the Deers, Brandon Teigita scored a couple of his own while teammate Avah Tarkong scored one.

Both SIS and GTC are at one win, one draw, and one loss in the Group B standings.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association coordinates the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League along with the Public School System Athletic Program.



LEIGH GASES

A Garapan Elementary School 1 player in black kicks the ball away from an Oleai Elementary School player during their 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League game last Monday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



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Saipan Tribune Sports

IT&E renews
support for
interscholastic
basketball program
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24 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Geckos stick it to Knights in MS soccer



By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Saipan International School beat Mount Carmel School, 3-2, in Group B of the middle school division of the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League last Tuesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Sean Park of SIS wasted no time and grabbed a hold of the ball as Geckos do on walls and scored the first goal in the very first minute of the game.

The rest of the first half was quiet as the Knights and Geckos duked it out on the field with neither team unable to score a goal.

A few shots were taken but none of them stuck until MCS finally found the back of the net in the 28th minute. However, Park found his footing once more and scored another goal for the Geckos to give SIS the lead once more, 2-1.

Leonard Delemarle of SIS tried to go for the goal a few times but his shots either hit the goal post or were

blocked by the MCS goalie. Finally, Delemarle found the sweet spot and scored a goal 40 minutes into the game to make it 3-1.

With time winding down, victory seemed imminent for the Geckos as the Knights were only able to score a goal once more, for the final score of 3-2.

The win put Geckos up 1-0 in the standings, while the Knights are at 0-1.

The Gecko lineup includes Aiden Camacho, Dean Duenas, Daniel Joab, Theo Joab, Yutaro Kitagawa, Taiga Namai-Scoggins, Landon Pudney, Keoni Ruszala, Moshe Sikkell, Nason Wessel, Leon-

See GECKOS on Page 22



Saipan International School's Moshe Sikkell (22) looks to his teammates as he passes a Mount Carmel School defender in their game in the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League last Tuesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Ganacias wins HANMI Golf tourney

MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Leo Ganacias topped the 20th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The 60-year-old RadioCom vice president shot a net of

68.80 in the double peoria tournament to win the fund-raising event. Junior golfer Joshua Atalig came second with his net of 70.20, while rounding out the Top 3 was Chris Graves with his net of 70.40.

Ganacias, who represented

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Leo Ganacias, center, won the 20th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Father and daughter hit paydirt

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Christian "Hollywood" Camacho and his daughter, Kassidy, made the Cowtown Race Track their personal red carpet after dominating their respective classes in the just concluded 2022 Monster Energy Point Series.

The elder Camacho won the Big Boy ATV Class in style after winning all seven races of the season for an impressive total of 350 points. Henry Camacho Sr. is dedicating his win "to all racing fans that come out and support this sport regardless of the amount of dust I throw at them."

Camacho also thanked his wife, his parents and family, and the Naughty Natives Team, Roil Soil, and the MRA board "for always putting on a successful race."

Currently, he's preparing for the Saipan vs. Guam race next month in Cowtown. "Right now my main focus is the Turkey Race which we will have Guam riders join-

ing. Some I've admired and lost to when I first started racing. But I told myself, one day we will meet again and I'll put on a better show," he said. Kassidy, meanwhile, ruled the Mini ATV Class with 288

points, followed by Theresa Borja's 264 points and Kaleb Reyes' 263 points.

The younger Camacho said she's surprised and happy after being announced

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Christian "Hollywood" Camacho and his daughter, Kassidy, show off their No. 1 plates after winning the Big Boy ATV and Mini ATV divisions of the just concluded 2022 Monster Energy Point Series.